



Independently owned and operated!

25,000 copies delivered biweekly to Morinda homes & businesses

25,000 FREE copies

www.lamorindaweekly.com

**Celebrate Our Schools**

Join us at this fun, free, family-friendly reception open to all

★ Magician ★ Games ★ Art ★ Food Trucks ★  
★ Live Music from David Martin's House Party ★  
and a Special LPIE Announcement

**Friday, February 10, 4:30-7:30pm**  
Lafayette Park Plaza

RSVP at [www.lpie.org](http://www.lpie.org)

LAFAYETTE PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

5-377-0977



Ellen (pictured right) and Larry Beans get two 1,000-gallon drums delivered to their Moraga home.

Photos provided

# Even after recent storms, locals work to save water

By Diane Claytor

Bomb cyclone. Atmospheric river. Pineapple Express. Whatever name weather forecasters gave the recent Bay Area storms, it amounted to one thing: a huge amount of rain falling very quickly in a relatively short time span.

In an interview with National Public Radio (NPR) last month, UC Santa Cruz professor, Andrew Fisher, said that with rain falling so quickly, we lack the ability to set water aside fast enough in a spot where it can be stored for future use. "It's not as simple as putting out a big bucket," Fisher declared.

At least two Moraga households may beg to differ with Professor Fisher's bucket statement.

Larry and Ellen Beans, self-proclaimed activists

and environmentalists, are longtime Moraga residents. Ellen Beans remembers they really learned how to save water during the extreme drought in 1974. "Water came down the hillside across the street from our Marin house," she recalls, "and we harvested that water, as well as washing machine rinse water and shower water, to use in our garden. Conserving has always been a part of our lifestyle," she explains.

Even with a fairly drought-tolerant garden, the Beans watched their water bill increase so Ellen Beans began looking for additional ways to save water. The more she learned, the more interested she became in collecting rainwater. She examined their roof and concluded that "we could get the most bang for the buck by taking water from the largest section of the roof." They reconfigured the gutters and the

pipes coming down from the gutters so that all the water from that section ran off from one of the corners. Larry Beans purchased two 50-gallon drums, which he connected so that when one was full, water would flow to the other one. He was also collecting pickle buckets from a local restaurant's trash, using them to take water from the drums and then watering their plants. "I had buckets with water and pickle juice watering the garden," he said jokingly.

Late last year, the Beans decided it was time to "go bigger." More research and Ellen Beans determined they could fit two 500-gallon drums in their side yard. But Larry Beans said, "If we're going to do it, let's really do it." After much convincing, "Larry won out," Ellen Beans admits, proudly showing off their two 1,000-gallon drums, installed in December.

... continued on Page A8

Advertising



- Not to be missed B5
- How to contact us B5
- Obituary B3
- Classified C1
- Community Service B3
- Shop Moraga C3

**Orinda's Lowest Gas Prices**

**22 Bryant Way - Next to Casa Orinda**

**Mon - Sat 5 am - 12 am;  
Sun 6 am - 11 pm**

# Lamorinda schools prepped to handle potential overdose cases



Faux fentanyl lethal dose

Photo courtesy media gallery of the DEA

By Sora O'Doherty

Shortly after 10 a.m. on Jan. 13 the staff at Acalanes High School responded quickly to a student medical emergency involving fentanyl, with the school

nurse immediately administering naxolone (the generic form of Narcan, which is an antidote to the opioid drug) to the student. The student was then transported by emergency responders, who provided additional medical care. Acalanes High School Principal Eric Shawn sent a letter to the families of Acalanes students expressing his gratitude for the immediate response of the school's administrative and medical team, and the rapid response of medical professionals who provided the necessary emergency care.

Superintendent John Nickerson of the Acalanes Union High School District said that the district has had three cases where fentanyl has been ingested by students during the last 12 months. Some of those incidents occurred at school, some outside of school.

According to Nickerson, AUHSD was one of the first districts in California to pass a board policy to allow Narcan on campus. Although authorized in 2017, the recent incident was the first time Narcan had been used in an AUHSD school. The superintendent added that the incident and the response of staff was very traumatic, even to the school nurse. AUHSD is planning more student education regarding fentanyl and Narcan, in addition to more staff training for teachers, nurses and school administrators. Nickerson noted that response training is significant because with opioid overdoses, minutes, and sometimes even seconds matter.

... continued on Page A8

<b>Civic News</b>	<b>A1-A10</b>	<b>Life in Lamorinda</b>	<b>B1-B5</b>	<b>Sports</b>	<b>C1-C3</b>	<b>Our Homes</b>	<b>D1-D20</b>
Moraga's disc golf course scheduled for a facelift - Page A4		Moraga 9-year-old launches charitable chocolate business - Page B1		Winning seasons show strength of girls soccer - Page C1		Making stock utilizing garden vegetables - Page D1	
<b>Public Safety</b>							
Two Orinda homes red tagged after landslide - Page A7							



See public meetings schedule on this pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements
City of Lafayette:
www.lovelafayette.org
Phone: (925) 284-1968
Chamber of Commerce:
www.lafayettechamber.org



Spacious Sleepy Hollow Retreat | 8 Sunnyside Court, Orinda

5 Bedroom + Bonus | 3.5 Bath | 5326± Sq. Ft. | .54± Acre Lot
8SunnysideCourt.com | Offered at \$3,445,000

Lamorindas #1 Real Estate Team Since 2010 | DanaGreenTeam.com | 925.339.1918 | DRE 01482454



COMPASS

Council moves forward with final approval of Housing Element in 4-1 vote



A potential opportunity site (highlighted in green and yellow) at Plaza Center Shopping Center on Mt. Diablo Boulevard adjacent to and behind Safeway was added to the 6th Cycle Housing Element plan.

By Lou Fancher

Planning and Building Director Greg Wolff on Jan. 23 led the Lafayette council's final review of the 6th Cycle Housing Element plan that will accommodate the mandated Regional Housing Needs Allocation of 2,114 units assigned to Lafayette.

the State Department of Housing and Community Development in concert with the Association of Bay Area Governments. Housing Element plan compliance must be met by law and implemented in the Lafayette General Plan.

draft presented at the meeting cover a broad range including the schedule, environmental review, HCD comments and revisions, the plan's goals, policies and programs, the current opportunity sites inventory, information on the plan's affirmative fair housing compliance, and other revisions.

Housing Consultant Diana Elrod said the Draft Housing Element Update submitted in June 2022 received a 13-page response from HCD, and revisions to amendments were made. The opportunity site inventory was modified, after eliminating the BART site and the DeSilva South site, and density levels were tiered in laddered, highest-to-lower density areas to maintain a lower profile of housing development directly on Mt. Diablo Boulevard.

air quality in developments located close to major transportation routes like Highway 24.

Elrod said updates in the revised draft related to recent development projects addressed environmental controls, specific acreages, and other matters.

When asked by council to address the fire danger concerns in areas considered for upzoning, Wolff said public safety and wildfires are high priorities. He said advocating for recognition that Lafayette has many high fire areas did not lead to significant response or exceptions granted from the EIR oversight agencies - other than to state that Lafayette has adequate resources and transportation plans to evaluate any project EIR and determine the public safety parameters.

... continued on Page A10

Broad scope of Lamorinda Transportation Plan presented

By Lou Fancher

The city council on Jan. 23 received an update from representatives of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and Placeworks associates regarding the latest draft of the Lamorinda Transportation Plan.

Plans (CTP) to the five subareas of Contra Costa County. The Action Plans provide overall direction for achieving and maintaining a functional and balanced transportation system within the county while strengthening the links between transportation and land use.

the local and regional transportation programs. One of the main mechanisms of the Countywide Transportation Plan are the five location-specific Action Plans such as the Lamorinda Action Plan. David Early, Placeworks Senior Advisor presented the area's draft plan, along with Placeworks Associate Torina Wilson, who Early credited with "doing the lion's share of

the work" to prepare the draft.

Early emphasized the growth management program required by the CCTA which sets the voter-approved urban limit lines and has among its objectives to keep development from encroaching on green spaces. Instead, the plans prioritize transportation development or safety improvements in urban areas

that offer existing sewer, electric and water systems.

The five action plans in the county are developed by various groups and committees and have performance measures that require mitigating negative impacts of development and list projects that meet the goals related to transportation growth.

... continued on Page A3

BATTERSBY.



Helping Sellers & Buyers



Proud of our company, Village Associates. 22 years and our real estate business model continues to work. Today and through all markets thus far we have continued to be profitable. Small and mighty with dedicated people dedicated to our clients. We know what works. Smart business. Smart people. Thankful to have had the opportunity to become owner/partner. And most importantly, to be part of this family.

Ashley Battersby
Broker/Partner
(925) 323-9955
DRE# 01407784
ashley@ashleybattersby.com
@ashleybattersbyhome
www.ashleybattersby.com



It's Village. Of Course.

Welcome to the 2023 Housing Market



The 2022 third and fourth quarter data indicates that Bay Area home prices have dropped double-digits in some markets since record setting sales in spring of last year. Comparing Q4 2021 v Q4 2022, the median home price in Lamorinda went from \$1,940,000 to \$1,835,000.

So where are values headed in 2023? I predict prices buoying-up during the spring as interest rates continue to soften and buyers return to the market. I'm also expecting a more equal playing field between buyers and sellers, however, there will be overbids for beautifully presented and accurately priced homes.

When pricing a home, my approach is to discuss comps and market conditions with my seller and craft a smart pricing strategy. If you are considering selling in 2023, now is the time to start planning. Contact me to learn how my team and I can help you obtain top-dollar for your home.

What's your home worth?

Scan the code to request a price evaluation and Kurt will email you ASAP.

KURT PIPER | Broker Associate
925.818.8000 | kurtpipergroup.com | DRE 01130308



# Lamorinda Transportation Plan discussed



Bridge offers access over highway.

Photo provided

... continued from Page A2

Early said it is his opinion as a professional whose work is conducted statewide, that Contra Costa County has one of the most advanced and sophisticated mechanisms to ensure transportation is regional and crosses subareas and even bordering county lines without issues of imbalance.

Early highlighted key accomplishments of CCTA's Lamorinda Action Plan, such as the Caldecott Tunnel 4th Bore, the Lamorinda School Bus Program, Canyon Road Bridge improvements, resurfacing and striping on Moraga Way for vehicles and bicycles, and Livable Moraga Way initiative. BART improvements, additional electric vehicle charging stations, and other street maintenance performed countywide have also contributed to improvements realized by residents of and visitors to Lamorinda.

The draft report states that during the current year and in 2024, the focus will be developing "big, bold ideas to enhance Contra Costa's transportation network." Among those big ideas are developing more countrywide multimodal transportation, reducing the number of solo-driver vehicles on the roads, and using innovative technology and integrated management systems to improve infrastructure and increase transportation safety.

The specific action plan for Lamorinda presents up-to-date transportation issue profiles, establishes quantitative objectives, identifies significant regional routes (SROs) where service is shared with other regions and may cross into other county boundaries, provides compliance metrics, and expands goals such as equitable objectives for improvements related to climate change, safety, technology, and more. The plan was developed by a range of entities that include the cities of Lafayette and Orinda, the town of Moraga, the Lamorinda Program Management Committee (LPMC), CCTA, Caltrans, BART and other stakeholders, such as Lamorinda Program Management Committee staff and board, the Southwest Area Transportation Committee (SWAT), and members of the public.

Early offered a streamlined review of a CCTA guide (available online through links to the meeting at the city's website) that covers in detail the goals, actions, and objectives for the action plan. He said the process to formulate the program was extensive, beginning in 2021 and ongoing. He noted the presentation to the Lafayette city council was unusual – no other update

forums to city councils in the five action plan areas have been conducted – and came in response to a specific request from council members.

Moving forward, Early said next steps are independent and require no action from the council, but comments and input are invited and will be considered as the CCTA reviews the draft and moves to publication of the final review document. A meeting in April of this year will move one step closer to formal acceptance of the action plans expected by late 2023 or early 2024.

Council questions included specific language and other details, such as the draft's definitions of downtown areas in the cities and town of Lamorinda and specific additions or changes to the regional significance designations of streets included in the program.

Public comments addressed gaps in the current county bus service, concerns about increased traffic volume and congestion, the possibility of shuttle-demand-based services and apps, the basis for the taxes that constitute Measure J, goals related to California's ambitious target goals for the electrification of vehicles, the possibility of new school car pool programs that link with county buses, and broad-based transportation safety issues.

Wilson said the plan includes language about implementing autonomous buses and shuttles (not specific to the question about schools, but for the general public). Kelly said any new technology referenced in the draft is constantly evolving, subject to change, and nevertheless, will remain a part of the goals and objectives in the plan. Early said reductions to bring safety metrics down to zero are goals made more complex by the multiplicity of causes for traffic accidents. Education programs and geometric improvements in dangerous areas are important actions the plan continues to include, despite the ambitious, zero-sum benchmark.

After additional clarification about how often the Action Plan will be updated in light of future housing developments and projected increased traffic congestion, especially on Mt. Diablo Boulevard and Pleasant Hill Road (the CCTA reviews and updates the action plans every five years), the council will send to CCTA their requests to reinsert aspirational levels of service goals for transportation corridors of highest concern and other minor comments and suggestions for consideration as the final action plan moves to completion.



## KEITH KATZMAN

I'M SELLING LAMORINDA!

Moraga resident since 1966. Successfully selling real estate for over 37 years.

925.376.7777  
keith.katzman@compass.com  
DRE # 00875484



### PRICE COMPARISON REPORT

2021 VS. 2022

Single Family Homes Only\*

#### Lafayette

2021	2022
Homes Sold: 418	Homes Sold: 275
Avg. Sales Price: \$2,117,000	Avg. Sales Price: \$2,459,000
Highest Sold Price: \$11,500,000	Highest Sold Price: \$12,000,000
Lowest Sold Price: \$840,000	Lowest Sold Price: \$975,000

#### Moraga

2021	2022
Homes Sold: 167	Homes Sold: 108
Avg. Sales Price: \$1,955,000	Avg. Sales Price: \$2,221,000
Highest Sold Price: \$4,300,000	Highest Sold Price: \$3,625,000
Lowest Sold Price: \$1,100,000	Lowest Sold Price: \$1,285,000

#### Orinda

2021	2022
Homes Sold: 375	Homes Sold: 233
Avg. Sales Price: \$2,187,000	Avg. Sales Price: \$2,300,000
Highest Sold Price: \$8,000,000	Highest Sold Price: \$6,750,000
Lowest Sold Price: \$925,000	Lowest Sold Price: \$875,000

### Your Strategic Partner

When you're preparing your home for market, it makes sense to assess what improvements can be made so that you're not leaving money on the table at closing. But what are those improvements? Let's work together well before a sale so that you can benefit from my expertise as a strategic partner!

As always, I am here to help ... I listen and I care



**BRYDON & IVES**  
REAL ESTATE TEAM

Providing an elevated real estate experience!

**1.5%**  
Of Top Ranked Realtors in the Country

**\$40M+**  
Real Estate Sold in 2022

**75**  
★★★★★  
Zillow Reviews

### COMING SOON

Lovely Camino Pablo single-story cul-de-sac rancher  
4 Bed | 2.5 Bath | 2,414 Sq Ft | .28 Acre  
Call for More Information

Lisa Brydon DRE 01408025 | Kristi Ives DRE 01367466  
925.788.8345 | bi@brydonivesteam.com | brydonivesteam.com  
Follow Us on Instagram @brydonives

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01527235. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community. Send a letter to the editor:  
letters@lamorindaweekly.com



**Lafayette Public Meetings**

**City Council**

Regular Meeting  
Monday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m.  
Teleconference via City of Lafayette's YouTube Channel:  
http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube

**Planning Commission Meeting**

Tuesday, Feb. 6, 7 p.m.  
Teleconference Meeting via Love Lafayette YouTube  
http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube

**Design Review**

Wednesday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m.  
Teleconference Meeting via Love Lafayette YouTube  
http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube



## MORAGA

See public meetings schedule on this pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements  
**Town of Moraga:**  
[www.moraga.ca.us](http://www.moraga.ca.us)  
 Phone: (925) 888-7022  
**Chamber of Commerce:**  
[www.moragachamber.org](http://www.moragachamber.org)  
**Moraga Citizens' Network:**  
[www.moragacitizensnetwork.org](http://www.moragacitizensnetwork.org)

**Town Council:** Wednesday, Feb. 8, 6:30 p.m.

**Planning Commission:** Tuesday, Feb. 7, 6:30 p.m.

**Park and Recreation Commission:**

Monday, Feb. 13, 7:00 p.m., Special Meeting

**Moraga School District Board Meetings:**

Tuesday, Feb. 14, 6 p.m. [www.moraga.k12.ca.us](http://www.moraga.k12.ca.us).

## LIVING TRUST

**\$895**  
**COMPLETE**  
Valid until March 15, 2023

### Plan Includes:

- Trust Agreement
- Pour Over Will
- Guardianship of Minor Children
- Power of Attorney for Finance
- Transfer of Real Property
- Advanced Health Care Directive

### Notary Services Included!

(925) 257-4277

[www.smykowskilaw.com](http://www.smykowskilaw.com)

[laurensmy@gmail.com](mailto:laurensmy@gmail.com)

Office Located in Walnut Creek

**FREE** INITIAL CONSULTATION

Law Offices of  
**Lauren Smykowski**

## BAD INC. Bay Area Drainage, Inc.

### Have You Checked Your Crawlspace Lately?

- French Drains
- Underfloor Drains
- Downspout Systems
- Subdrain Systems
- Sump Pumps
- Retaining Walls
- Pavestone Driveway & Walkways

A General Engineering Contractor  
 Locally owned and Operated  
 Contractor LIC # 762208

**925•377•9209**



visit our website

[www.bayareadrainage.com](http://www.bayareadrainage.com)



**WALNUT CREEK**  
 D E R M A T O L O G Y  
 Healthier Skin Lies Within

**Paige Radell, M.D.**

[www.walnutcreekderm.com](http://www.walnutcreekderm.com)

925-391-9439

**Pediatric and Adult Patients.**  
 Same day appointments available.

## Town council gives thumbs up to Comprehensive Advanced Planning Initiative/Housing Element update

By Vera Kochan

Heading down the home stretch of the long and winding road which is the Comprehensive Advanced Planning Initiative/Housing Element, Planning Director Afshan Hamid and Consultant Barry Miller made their final presentation to the town council during its Jan. 25 meeting. The council was asked to consider three resolutions and two ordinances in order to adopt the new Housing Element by the state's Jan. 31 deadline. Bollinger Canyon rezoning and Rheem Objective Development and Design Standards will be considered in February and March.

While many residents still feel disgruntled about Moraga's requirement to add within the next eight years 1,118 new housing units to a town of roughly 9,456 square miles, perhaps one can take heart in the fact that San Francisco's 46.87 square miles is required to add 82,000 new homes to its already jam-packed living conditions. It would seem that S.F. has nowhere to go but up.

The Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) has broken down Moraga's requirements into 318 very low-income units, 183 low-income units, 172 moderate-income units, and 445 above moderate-income units.

Council members unanimously approved all three resolutions and the two ordinances after months of updates, surveys and changes requested by themselves, Moraga residents and the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).

Resolution 1 is the Final Environmental Impact Report. It certifies the FEIR for the Comprehensive Advanced

Planning Initiative; adopts a mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) including 24 different measures to reduce future development impacts; and adopts findings and statement of overriding considerations for the Housing Element. Hamid notes that this is a "Program Level" EIR – future projects will still be subject to environmental review.

Resolution 2 is the Adoption of the 2023-2031 Housing Element; it finds that the town has responded to all state comments; it also finds that the Element is in substantial compliance with the government code; and it authorizes transmittal of a "tracked change" and "clean" copy to HCD for a compliance determination. The state has 60 days to issue a decision letter upon receipt.

Resolution 3 concerns the General Plan Amendments. This resolution amends the 2002 Moraga General Plan so that it is internally consistent with the Housing Element; it responds to state law to address wildfire and evacuation in the Safety Element; it responds to state law on "Vehicle Miles Traveled" (VMT) for measuring transportation impacts; and it also includes various other (non-substantive) amendments to keep the plan current.

Ordinance 1 pertains to Moraga Center. This ordinance increases allowable density from 20 to 24 units per acre on mixed-use sites and most R-20 sites; and it rezones several "commercial-only" parcels to mixed use (allowing housing, commercial, or both). This ordinance would not change development standards (such as heights, setbacks, etc.) adopted in 2010 and 2020 as part of the Moraga Center Specific Plan (MCSP) and MCSP Implementation Project. Projects in the

Housing Element call for staff review of these standards in 2023, including recommendations for council consideration.

Ordinance 2 is directed toward the Rheem Center. This ordinance creates two new zoning districts: Rheem Park Mixed Office-Residential, and Rheem Park Mixed Commercial-Residential. It also adopts standards for these districts allowing housing up to 24 dwelling units per acre, in addition to office/commercial uses; lastly it amends the zoning map for key sites in the Rheem Park commercial district.

As mentioned earlier, many residents are fearful that the Moraga as we know it will take a turn for the worse, in a variety of directions. The plain and simple truth is that the state is requiring all of its municipalities to conform to the 6th Cycle Housing Element mandates. According to Hamid and Miller's staff report, non-compliance will result in "adverse consequences, including ineligibility for many state and regional grants (including grants for transportation, planning, etc.), vulnerability to lawsuits, fines and penalties, and potential loss of local land use control."

Community input has been unprecedented with outreach to over 7,000 people. A survey of 1,200 individuals showed that the majority of respondents were in favor of having more amenities and a variety of housing options.

There are many benefits on the horizon for Moraga. A better mix of housing will allow seniors, young families, first-time home buyers and the town's workforce a chance to afford living in Moraga.

... continued on Page A5

## Moraga's disc golf course slated for a facelift



Photo courtesy Moraga Parks and Recreation Department

Moraga's disc golf course is scheduled for an upgrade.

By Vera Kochan

One may assume that disc golf is a relatively new sport, but it was "invented" nearly 50 years ago by Ed Headrick, inventor of the Frisbee. The concept is much like that of traditional golf, except that a flying disc or Frisbee is used in place of a ball and clubs; and instead of a hole the disc is thrown into an elevated metal basket. The same goal of completing the course with the fewest number of throws is the object of the sport.

The disc golf course at Moraga Commons Park (1450 St. Mary's Rd), was estab-

lished/donated in 1982, by the Women's Society. It has 9 holes with a course length of 2,610 ft, and an alternate length of 3,175 ft. It is described as located "on a gently rolling hill, with cut grass and well-trimmed trees. Paver/Rubber mat tees on easy to moderately difficult holes." Currently, the Moraga Disc Golf Club has approximately 100 members.

According to the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA), "Disc golf shares the same joys and frustrations of golf, whether it's sinking a long putt or hitting a tree halfway down the fairway. There are a few differences

though: Disc golf is often free to play in public parks, although pay-to-play courses are trending upward; you probably won't need to rent a cart, but converted golf course layouts are also on the rise; and your 'tee time' will usually come during tournament competition, not casual play."

Disc golf can be enjoyed by people of all ages, and PDGA boasts of having over 200,000 lifetime members in 54 countries totaling more than 9,800 disc golf courses worldwide and counting. An additional upside to the sport is that there's less likelihood of losing the disc as opposed to a golf ball. The \$15 cost of a professional quality disc will probably be the most a player will spend on the sport.

According to a Jan. 11 staff report by Parks and Recreation Director Mackenzie Brady, staff was approached by resident Mark D. Robeson, who with his son, frequents the town's disc golf course. Feeling that the course needed an upgrade, he recommended that the town apply for a \$15,000 grant from the Burton D. Morgan Foundation (of which Robeson is a trustee). A grant application was submitted on Dec. 5, 2022, and approved by the Foundation, which is "committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in all of its grant-making activities." The funds were received by the town later that month.

Some of the site improvements will include updated tee pads, signage, benches, and trees. Any design fees will be donated by frequent course user and premier disc golf course designer Leonard Muise. Labor costs will be kept to a minimum through community work days organized by staff.

# Saklan School teacher selected for a trip of a lifetime to Antarctica



Saklan School teacher Victoria Obenchain with penguins in Antarctica.

Photo provided

## By Vera Kochan

Virtually uninhabited, the earth's southernmost continent of Antarctica spans 5.5 million square miles of ice-covered terrain. While scientists and tourists make up any of the insignificant human population, the only permanent inhabitants are penguins, seals, whales and seabirds.

Moraga's Saklan School teacher Victoria Obenchain was selected for the 2021 Grosvenor Teacher Fellowship with Lindblad Expeditions and the National Geographic Society. The middle school science teacher/science specialist was one of 50 educators from the United States and Canada chosen to participate in this 14th iteration to either the high Arctic, southeast Alaska, Central America, Antarctica or the Galapagos Islands for an enhanced professional development opportunity. Unfortunately, COVID protocols postponed her adventure until December 2022.

According to the National Geographic Society's website, no matter where the educators are assigned, "throughout their journey, they will encounter wildlife and explore breathtaking landscapes while accompanied by a team of Lindblad Expeditions naturalists, including marine biologists, geologists, historians, undersea specialists and National Geographic photographers. Each will return home with an experience they will translate into reimagined curricula that inspire their students, colleagues and communities to care more deeply about the planet and take action on global issues."

Obenchain had been trying for three years to be chosen for this experience of a lifetime. The process involves a series of four essays and a personal video about her classroom curriculum. She also took several of National Geographic's online courses to give her an added edge. Most of the teachers who apply for the fellowship are science-oriented which made for

stiffer competition in that field.

The chosen fellows do not get to pick their destination. "I was assigned Antarctica, and I really wanted it," explained Obenchain. "I was so excited, I cried while I was telling my mom. I felt really lucky to be chosen. It was my first choice."

Obenchain's trip began with the airline losing her luggage on the flight to Buenos Aires. However, a quick trip to the local mall replenished her travel needs (she picked up her eventually found luggage on her return flight). The entire expedition took 12 days, allowing for two days to get to the ship and two days to return home. The voyage/cruise began in the port town of Ushuaia, Argentina aboard one of the largest ships in the fleet, National Geographic Explorer. In order to get to the first destination, the South Shetland Islands, the ship made its way through one of the most treacherous waterways on the planet – Drake Passage. Many of the travelers succumbed to sea sickness, but Obenchain's lurching stomach was basically kept under control.

The passengers consisted of three teachers, approximately 100 tourists, and about 40-50 crew members. Located in the Southern Hemisphere, Antarctica was in the middle of summer, and the temperature enjoyed by the visitors was, on average, a balmy 32 degrees Fahrenheit. At one point on the trip, passengers were encouraged to jump into the frigid waters from a deck while wearing just a bathing suit. Obenchain decided to participate in this version of a Polar Plunge. "I was in the water for about 15 seconds. There's a person already in there that helps you get out, and they immediately give you blankets and hot chocolate."

The teachers on the trip were encouraged to make it a learning experience. "It was the expectation of sharing what we've learned with our classes back home and to

share the experience with the community through a presentation," stated Obenchain. "I learned about animal adaptations; rock formations; and the food web. I walked through an actively steaming volcanic site and learned about the physics of the streamlined shape of penguins." She was treated to up-close views of thousands of penguins; watched killer whales come up for air and slap their massive tail fins while descending back into the sea; and observed seals sleeping on shoreline beaches.

Every day a new excursion away from the ship brought more wonders to the eyes of the passengers. "I just wanted to experience everything! We would sometimes go kayaking or go on a zodiac (a large inflatable kayak) that would take us to shore. We came across humpback whales eating. It was incredible to experience the wildlife and to understand how fragile the ecosystem is."

Obenchain plans to submit another application in the hopes that she will once again be chosen to take another life-changing trip to a different destination. The National Geographic Society promotes a continued dialogue amongst teachers as part of an ongoing educational practice. "I would encourage any teacher to apply to the Fellowship; and anyone who's not a teacher, I would encourage a trip to Antarctica. It's like the last great wilderness!"

# Town council gives thumbs up

... continued from Page A4

In turn, the increase in residents will hopefully generate new retail and restaurants into both shopping centers and create walkable and pedestrian oriented areas. Many have noted the run-down conditions of both shopping centers (more so, the Moraga Shopping Center). Recently a visiting Saint Mary's College alumni asked this reporter, "What happened to the Moraga Center? It's such a dump," noting the paint is peeling, the parking lots need repair, and some of the signage is faded.

The high cost of buying a home in Moraga has priced out a lot of young families wishing to move into town to take advantage of the excellent schools. With this decrease in student population, funding

opportunities have been impacted. By the same token SMC students, faculty and staff will be able to live closer to campus and contribute to retail by shopping within Moraga.

The town has taken into consideration residents' concerns regarding wildfire/evacuation; mitigating traffic congestion; preserving hillsides and open space; and retaining the feel of established neighborhoods by performing evacuation studies; traffic studies; centering much of the new housing in commercial centers; and encouraging Accessory Dwelling Units as inclusionary housing.

Recent feedback from developers and property owners will result in the actual construction of a better mix of housing and two vibrant live-shop-walk-work villages.

Quality Hearing Aids • In Ear Monitors • Ear Mold Impressions

**FREE Initial Consultation**  
Now taking Blue Cross, Blue Shield and Medicare.

**Dr. Erik M. Breitling,**  
Au.D., CCC-A, FAAA

**LAMORINDA AUDIOLOGY**

3744 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 100, Lafayette  
**(925) 262-4242** www.LamorindaAudiology.com

Hearing Aid Evaluations • Musicians Hearing Protection

Swim Plugs • Comprehensive Diagnostic Adult Hearing Evaluations

*YOUR SMILE IS EVERYTHING*

**Mary H. Smith D.D.S.**  
*A Professional Corporation*  
*Family & Cosmetic Dentistry*

Proudly serving the Lamorinda community for over 26 years.

We always welcome new patients.

Our office delivers the highest quality and service.

Consults are always complementary.

Come visit our brand new State of the Art office.  
1 Bates Blvd. Ste. 210, Orinda, 925.254.0824



See public meetings schedule on this pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements  
**City of Orinda:**  
[www.cityoforinda.org](http://www.cityoforinda.org)  
 Phone (925) 253-4200  
**Chamber of Commerce:**  
[www.orindachamber.org](http://www.orindachamber.org)  
**The Orinda Association:**  
[www.orindaassociation.org](http://www.orindaassociation.org)

- Hardwoods
- Carpets
- Rugs
- LVP
- Vinyl
- Laminate

**FAMILY OWNED  
30+ YEARS!**

**925-284-4440**

3344 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Lafayette  
[lamorindafloors.com](http://lamorindafloors.com)

**LAMORINDA  
FLOORS**



Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and holds a Equal Housing Opportunity License. License Number 0227235. All models presented herein are intended for informational purposes only and do not constitute an offer. All models are subject to change without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.

**COMPASS**  
Make the right move in 2023.

Contact me any time for an update on our changing market.

**Dana Reedy**  
 JD | Broker Associate  
 415.205.8050  
[dana@danareedyhomes.com](mailto:dana@danareedyhomes.com)  
 DRE 01880723



## Planning Commission recommends the Housing and Safety Elements, Downtown Precise Plan

By Sora O'Doherty

As the long process of adopting a 6th Cycle Housing Element, a revised Safety Element, and a Downtown Precise Plan (DPP) comes to an end, the Orinda Planning Commission on Jan. 18 recommended that the City Council adopt the Final Environmental Impact Report for Plan Orinda at its Jan. 31 meeting. Although that meeting occurred after press time, it was anticipated that the council would meet the Jan. 31 deadline for approving the housing element and the safety element.

As the city has wended its way through this process, it was decided to combine these required elements with a DPP. The Plan is intended to provide guidelines for all building projects in the downtown area, as well as to put in place objective design standards that would apply even to new develop-

ments under recent and anticipated legislation that would remove design discretion from the city in favor of non-discretionary approvals aimed at increasing housing throughout the state of California.

Retired attorney Nick Waranoff, who frequently speaks at public meetings, suggested that it was unnecessary to adopt the DPP, and expressed fears that it would lead to very high buildings in a very densely populated downtown Orinda. Although the Planning Commission did acknowledge the potential effects of density bonuses, Commissioner Robert Hubner pointed out that the decision to adopt the DPP was a "difficult but necessary" decision. He praised Orinda staff and their consultants for their hard work. Vice Chair Willy Mautner agreed that the team had put together a "very thorough and comprehensive document." He added that he thought that a lot of hard work

had gone into the project and should be recognized. Chair Ann Parnigoni, and Commissioner Marian Jelinek also voted in favor of recommending the plan. Commissioner Lina Lee had an excused absence. Planning Director Drummond Buckley agreed that he was very proud of his team, especially Winnie Mui and Darin Hughes and the Placeworks consultants.

One significant change that was incorporated in the final draft DPP was the inclusion of two plans for the restoration of San Pablo Creek in downtown Orinda. One plan was put forward by the Friends of Orinda Creeks in 2019 and another plan proposed by Placeworks in 2022. The primary difference between the two plans is the Friends of Orinda Creeks plan proposes a meander and the Placeworks plan is for a straight channel.

Two major concerns expressed by commenters were the suitability of two locations: the Caltrans site known as Gateway, which is off Highway 24 beside the Cal Shakes property; and the BART parking lots. Buckley explained that the Gateway site is particularly suited for residential development because it is situated directly opposite a newly approved congregate care facility on Wilder Road; it is one of the viable large vacant plots of land available in Orinda; and it is located in a high resource area close to a major recreational facility, a performing arts venue, public trails and open spaces as well as Orinda's newest neighborhood. In addition, he said that with improved pedestrian and bicycle

connections and/or shuttle or transport links, it is close and accessible to downtown Orinda and BART.

As for the possibility of providing for housing on the site of the BART parking lots, it was pointed out once again that complex ownership issues mean that the site is better suited for the 7th Cycle Housing Element.

Other changes to the housing and safety elements resulted from ongoing dialog with the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). These changes included adding additional milestones to ensure progress on the Caltrans site, the addition of new action to state how the city will facilitate development on small lots, increasing the bed limits for emergency shelters from 7 to 20, and adding new action to monitor development fees to ensure that they are not a constraint to development of multifamily housing. Some key changes to the DPP sites analysis included adding five additional DPP sites.

The original selection of 43 sites had been reduced to 21 sites based on owner interest and redevelopment potential, but now with the five additional sites totals 26 DPP sites. The final draft also includes 55 dwelling units per acre in the County Club Plaza Block and at Country Club Plaza and the BevMo block. The height limit on a number of DPP sites, which the city had proposed to lower, has been kept at 45 feet in response to HCD comments.

All of the revised documents can be viewed at <https://www.planorinda.com>



**Surprisingly great rates right around the corner.**

**Kelly Sopak Insurance Agency Inc**  
 Kelly Sopak, Agent  
 Insurance Lic#: 6006124  
 1 Northwood Drive Suite 1  
 Orinda, CA 94563  
 Mon-Thurs 9:00am to 5:00pm  
 Fridays 9:00am to 4:30pm  
 Evenings & Weekends by Appt  
 Hablamos Español

State Farm  
 Bloomington, IL  
 2001878

I'm your one-stop shop for the service you deserve at a price you want. Call me for surprisingly great rates and Good Neighbor service right in your neighborhood.

**Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®**

Individual premiums will vary by customer. All applicants subject to State Farm underwriting requirements.



**City Council**  
**Regular Meeting:** Tuesday, Feb. 7, 6:00 p.m.  
**Planning Comm.:** Wednesday, Feb. 14, 7:00 p.m.  
**Supplemental Sales Tax Oversight Commission**  
 Wednesday, Feb. 8, 6:30 p.m.

## Reporter Wanted

Lamorinda Weekly is looking for a **Lafayette City Reporter:**

**Required Qualifications:**  
 Excellent writing and communication skills. Ethical and professional. Live or work in or near the Lamorinda area and have the ability to write balanced, researched, well-structured articles. Prior journalism experience desired, but not required. Understanding of AP Style is a plus. Compensation is made on a per article basis.

- Join the Lamorinda Weekly team
- Do you want to learn about important happenings in the community?
  - Do you want to work with City Officials, Volunteers, and Organizations?
  - Do you want to interact with many interesting people?
  - Do you simply want to get involved?

Being a reporter/writer for the Lamorinda Weekly is a great opportunity to help make a difference in your community. For 16 years our team has brought civic news and interesting feature stories to neighbors and friends in the Lamorinda area. If you are interested in becoming a team member and are ready to discover amazing stories all around you, give us a call.

Please send your resume and writing sample to [wendy@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:wendy@lamorindaweekly.com) or call (925) 377-0977



Lamorinda Weekly is an independent Newspaper owned by Andy and Wendy Schack with the vision to bring news and interesting stories to the communities of Lamorinda. Since the start of this paper in 2007 our team members have enjoyed a strong engagement with members of their community, the pleasure of meeting many interesting people and the satisfaction of bringing balanced and well researched news to all.

## LeapFrog Plumbing



Head Frog Mo Williams

Plumbing is the heart of the home. LeapFrog offers a whole-house checkup so you know all systems are "go."

- The one-call plumber Gas, Water & Sewer**
- Emergency service
  - High Pressure Jetter for Sewer & French Drain cleaning
  - Repairs & installation
  - Video sewer inspection
  - Copper re-piping
  - Preventive checkups
  - Water heater specialist Tank, Tankless, Hybrid

**LeapFrog LooT \$89 off**  
 Whole-house checkup\*  
**LeapFrog LooT \$59 off**  
 Any plumbing repair or installation\*  
**LeapFrog LooT \$200 off**  
 tankless/hybrid water heater installation\*

\*1 coupon per service, exp. 2/28/23



**We Hop To It!**

Family-owned and serving Lamorinda since 1993

green solutions!



(925) **377-6600**

[www.LeapFrogPlumbing.com](http://www.LeapFrogPlumbing.com)



# Rodent Proofing

Learn about Honest Rodent Proofing's industry-leading 4-step process to get rid of rats, mice and other rodents.

**GUARANTEED**

**FREE In-Home Inspection,**

**Mention Lamorinda Weekly for a 10% discount**

**Call 925-433-3988**



www.honestrodentproofing.com

Servicing the Bay Area to Sacramento

## The Spring Real Estate Market

Some homes are taking longer to sell as buyers have become more selective and cost sensitive. Savvy sellers are making strategic, cost-effective fixups & top-notch marketing to sell their homes quickly.

Call me today for a free property evaluation and marketing plan. Utilize my 20+ years of local real estate success to achieve the highest return on your sale with minimal stress.

*Integrity* ♦ *Knowledge* ♦ *Results*

**Frank Woodward**

Realtor®, Luxury Property Specialist

T. 925.788.4963

E.Frank@FrankWoodward.com



**COLDWELL BANKER REALTY**



©2023 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.

## Two Orinda homes lost in landslide, government help uncertain



Photos courtesy city of Orinda

**By Sora O'Doherty**

After winter storms dropped an unprecedented amount of rain on Lamorinda, two homes on Cedar Lane in Orinda have been red-tagged as unsafe for occupancy. On the night of Jan. 18, the residence at 14 Cedar Lane started to slide down the steep hill behind the house. In the days that followed, residents of the destroyed homes would find that damage caused by landslides is not covered by most home insurance policies, and that help from the Federal Emergency Management Agency will only be available to private individuals if Contra Costa County as a whole reaches a certain threshold of storm-related damage.

According to Emily Barnett, Contra Costa County Central Sanitation Communications and Government Relations Manager, Central San got a call in the evening of the landslide.

occupancy on Jan. 21, and the house was also red-tagged. Residents of both homes have safely relocated, according to the city, which released a statement on Jan. 23, noting that it is "coordinating with numerous agencies from the County Building Department to utility providers and the County Office of Emergency Services." The city has also enlisted a geotechnical engineering consultant who determined that Cedar Lane is safe to drive. The consultant will continue to monitor the stability of the public road.

The city asked those who are not visiting a specific home on Cedar Lane to postpone visits to a future date. The city also said that key staff are meeting daily to review imagery from the site and to coordinate patrols and inter-agency communication. The outpouring of caring for fellow Orindans is heartwarming and in response to those asking

whelmed by your support over the last few days. Our family is safe and we are doing our best to navigate the unknown. A huge thank you to all of you for your care, concern and for the donations. We greatly appreciate all of the support."

Resident Carol Sebelia was shocked to find that assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency will only be available to private individuals if the county of Contra Costa reaches a threshold amount of damage from the storm. The city of Orinda has urged residents who did sustain damage to follow the link to Contra Costa County's online fillable form allowing private property owners to report storm-related damage on their private property. This information is essential to the county's effort to access federal aid for private property owners within Contra Costa County. The Sebelia family has lived in their home for 25 years. They briefly

stayed with friends before moving to a place in Rossmore. Sebelia said that she is not sure that the property can be fixed. She believes that "excess rain water suddenly gushed like a river downhill and broke the Morrissey's iron piers and their house and the river wiped out our driveway retaining wall, fence, and more." She also noted that they do not want a GoFundMe campaign established on their behalf.

In response to a question from The Lamorinda Weekly regarding possible assistance to the families, Rich Kovar, Emergency Services Manager of the Contra Costa County's Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services responded, saying FEMA and Cal OES damage inspectors would be in Orinda on Sunday and Monday to inspect the reported storm impacts on private property throughout the county. "While there is no guarantee that we as a county will meet the federal threshold, this is a positive step. We will have a definitive answer on the Individual assistance qualifications." He added, "At this time, I am not aware of any available resources. We have requested that Cal OES set up a Local Assistance Center to bring together public, private, and nonprofit resources. This center will include federal, state, and private sector resources with experience and can share options outside the existing federal recovery programs. This may provide more clarity

on available options. If all works out, this LAC will happen sometime next week."

City Administrative Services Director Douglas Alessio said that city staff had held a meeting with staff from Congressman Mark Desaulnier's office and representatives from FEMA and Cal OES. He stated that there is no "bright line" amount of damage that qualifies individuals in a county for individual help from FEMA, but that the upcoming inspections should determine if that threshold is met.

He mentioned the possibility of low interest loans of up to \$200,000 per household for building repairs and potential structural and personal grants of up to \$41,000 per household.

The GoFundMe campaign to aid the Morrissey family can be found at:

<https://gofund.me/40d27df5>

The form for reporting storm-related damage in the county can be found at: Contra Costa County Storm Damage Reporting Form.

As of Jan. 30 Kovar said that the inspections were ongoing, but that Contra Costa County had qualified for the Small Business Association Loan Program because Santa Clara and Alameda Counties had qualified. However the determination on the Individual Assistance program, which would open up both state and federal assistance, had not yet been made.



A collapsed garage sits at the end of this driveway on Cedar Lane.

Photo Sora O'Doherty

Upon inspection, it was found that the mudslide had dislodged a small offshoot pipe and mud had covered the maintenance access. Because residents would be without sewer service, and it would have been too dangerous for Central San workers to attempt the repairs in the dark, residents of three homes were offered accommodation in a local hotel. Central San was able to complete the work by 1 p.m. the following afternoon, and those residents were able to return to their homes. Barnett noted that the residents were "really appreciative and really very nice and kind to us."

Only 14 Cedar Lane was red tagged initially and neighboring 10 Cedar Lane was yellow tagged. However, as the land continued to slide, the city of Orinda deemed 10 Cedar Lane to also be unsafe for oc-

what they can do, the city urged residents who have sustained damage to report it to Contra Costa County.

Ava and Lisa Jackson organized a GoFundMe campaign to help the Morrissey family, who lost their home in the landslide. They set a goal of \$80,000 to help the family recover from catastrophic damage to their home. "Thankfully the family of four got out safely, but sadly the house is unrecoverable. The family has lived in the house for 12 years and they are devastated that their home and land are destroyed. We are raising funds initially to help provide short-term accommodation and cover the cost of cleanup." Within a few days, the campaign raised more than \$78,000.

Lexi Morrissey responded on behalf of the family, saying, "We are humbled and over-

## LAMORINDA GYNECOLOGY & SURGERY



### ARE YOU LOOKING FOR

- Highly personalized and accessible gynecologic care?
- Unhurried appointments where you get all your questions answered?
- Expert menopause care?
- A highly skilled surgeon who can treat fibroids, heavy bleeding, infertility, endometriosis, and ovarian cysts?



**DR. CHERUBA PRABAKAR**  
BOARD CERTIFIED OB/GYN

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT VISIT

www.lamorindagyn.com

+1(925)744-7473

878 3RD ST. #100, LANAYETTE, CA.

American Made



Locally Owned

Lic # 839474

## When's the last time you cleaned your dryer vent?

2,900 home fires, and \$35 million in property damage, are caused by clothes each year.

Get your dryer vent professionally cleaned today and rest easy.



air conditioning • heating • dryer vent cleaning  
air duct cleaning • commercial HVAC • and more

ASK ABOUT OUR SENIOR DISCOUNT!



**(925) 455-4AIR**

(925) 455-4247 - BradfordAir.com





# Vote YES on Z: GREAT TEACHERS, GREAT ORINDA SCHOOLS



Student achievement in Orinda schools ranks in the top 1% in California. However, out of over 1,000 school districts in California, Orinda Union School District consistently ranks in the bottom ten in per student funding. Orinda teachers are among the lowest paid in our area and Orinda increasingly loses qualified and experienced teachers to San Ramon and other school districts that offer more competitive compensation.

**Measure Z will keep great teachers in Orinda classrooms and protect quality education for Orinda students.**

## Yes on Z will:



Attract and retain qualified and experienced teachers



Support quality academic programs in science, technology, engineering, reading, writing, arts and music



Keep class sizes small

## Mandatory Accountability and Local Control

- All funds must stay local and cannot be taken away by the State
- An independent citizens' oversight committee and annual audits ensure funds are spent as promised
- By law, no funds can be used for administrator salaries
- Measure Z automatically expires in seven years and cannot be renewed without voter approval
- Senior citizens are eligible for an exemption

# WE ALL AGREE: VOTE YES ON Z!

## Organizations

Orinda Educators' Association  
Orinda Network for Education (ONE)  
Del Rey Parents' Club  
Glorietta Parents' Club  
Miramonte Parents' Club  
Orinda Intermediate School Parents' Club  
Sleepy Hollow Parents' Club  
Christina Linezo Real Estate

## Elected Officials

Steve Glazer, State Senator & Former Mayor of Orinda  
Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, State Assemblymember  
Don Perata, Former State Senate President Pro Tem  
Sarah Butler, Member, Contra Costa County Board of Education & Former Member, OUSD Board of Trustees  
Inga Miller, Mayor of Orinda  
Darlene Gee, Vice Mayor of Orinda  
Brandyn Iverson, Council Member, Orinda  
Latika Malkani, Council Member, Orinda  
Janet Riley, Council Member, Orinda  
Laura Abrams, Former Mayor of Orinda  
Dennis Fay, Former Mayor of Orinda  
Joyce Hawkins, Former Mayor of Orinda  
Bill Judge, Former Mayor of Orinda  
Tom McCormick, Former Mayor of Orinda  
Sue Severson, Former Mayor of Orinda & Former Member, OUSD Board of Trustees  
Victoria Smith, Former Mayor of Orinda  
Amy Worth, Former Mayor of Orinda  
Nick Kosla, Former Council Member, Orinda  
Hillary Weiner, President, OUSD Board of Trustees  
Cara Hoxie, Vice President, OUSD Board of Trustees  
Edda Collins Coleman, Member, OUSD Board of Trustees  
Eve Phillips, Member, OUSD Board of Trustees  
Katie Shogan, Member, OUSD Board of Trustees

Carol Brown, Former Member, OUSD Board of Trustees  
Liz Daoust, Former Member, OUSD Board of Trustees  
Nancy Kaible, Former Member, OUSD Board of Trustees  
Jason Kaune, Former Member, OUSD Board of Trustees  
Linda Landau, Former Member, OUSD Board of Trustees  
Julie Rossiter, Former Member, OUSD Board of Trustees  
Pat Rudebusch, Former Member, OUSD Board of Trustees  
Christopher Severson, Member, Acalanes UHSD Board of Trustees  
Susie Epstein, Former Member, Acalanes UHSD Board of Trustees  
Alex Evans, Former Chair, Moraga-Orinda Fire District

## Community Leaders

Scott M. Adams  
Belinda Adams-Walker  
Rahul Aggarwal  
Joanna Allen  
Andy & Carole Amstutz  
Andrew Anagnost  
Sandy & Dave Anderson  
Sarah Anderson  
Ashley Appel  
DeEtte Baise  
Deepa Bangalore  
Scott & Stephanie Barmmer  
A.R. Bassa  
Todd & Amy Berryhill  
Renee Bertenthal  
Allison Bingham  
Diane Bode  
Wendy & Herman Bond  
Sean Brennan

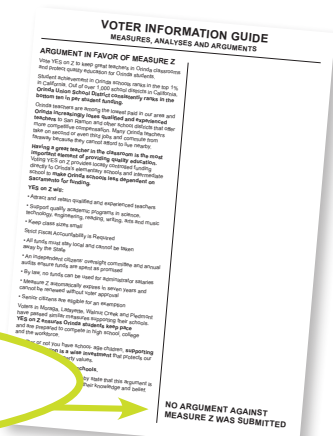
Olivia Brown  
Annie Burgess  
Dianna Burns  
Robert Burt  
Natalie Lacuesta Byrum  
Catherine Campbell  
Elisa Carpenter  
Mindy Carrington  
Amanda Catanesi  
Molly Chapman  
Patricia Cetrone  
Laurel Chee  
Anil K. Chopra  
Gene & Lisa Chow  
Tim Christianson  
Todd & Nina Clark  
Kate Clarke  
Shannon & Jon Conner  
Niall Conway  
Bill Cosden  
Vanessa & Jesse Crews  
Cathy Cutler & Abe Mintz  
Karolyn Cutler  
Erica Damianakes  
Steven Danziger  
Mark Daoust  
Susheel Daswani  
Clay Deanhardt  
Vince Dell'Aquila  
Lorraine DeMello  
Emily Desai  
Jennifer Dodd  
Alicia Doyle  
Carolyn Druger  
Lauren Dunlap  
Diane Dwyer & Tim Sharp  
Akiva Elias  
Nancy English  
Emily Estrada  
Natalie Fay  
Christopher & Stephanie Gade  
Dennis Gee

Gary Geng  
Xin Geng  
Kathryn Golueke  
Tanuka Gordon  
Wesley Gosnell  
M'Liss Greenlee  
Jess Greer  
Chunyan Gu  
Rahul Gupta  
Kitty Guptill  
Cherise Gutierrez  
Lowell Haky  
Alex Hall  
Julia Hall  
Jud Hammon  
Lori Hardy  
Steve & Tish Harwood  
Chris & Lisa Haskell  
Pete & Helen Hasselman  
Liz Headley  
Charles & Eva Heath  
Matt Helder  
Stephanie Helder  
Jodi L. Helffenstein  
Duke & Jill Herrero  
Kristin Hilty  
Vickie Hilty  
Kendra Hoffman  
Christina Holling  
Stacy Howard  
Shelley & Bob Hubner  
Jill Hughes  
Mark Hurst  
Marc Jacuzzi  
Nathan Jaskowiak  
Elisabeth Jewell  
Debra Jockisch  
Debbie & Glenn Johansen  
Elaina Jones  
Joey Judge  
Michelle Kalafatis  
Mark & Jennifer Kamal  
Alicia Keenan  
Ron Keller  
Jennifer Kelly  
Joan Kiekhaefer  
Suzy Kisch  
Paul & Maria Barrie Kivel  
Larissa Kosla  
Meredith Kreis  
Stephanie Kreutzer  
Anny Lackey

Tabitha Langman  
Ashley Lee  
Yasaman & Young Lee  
Jan & Barry Levin  
Melanie Light  
Hana Lindberg  
Christina Linezo  
Dr. Nicola Longmuir  
Lisa Lyon  
Jessica MacDiarmid  
Carlie Magill  
Myla Manese  
Shasta Matthey & Matt Talmadge  
Patricia McAteer  
Christina Flores McCormick  
Jen McKenzie  
Michelle Meyers  
Hadley Mickel  
Adam Miller  
Glenn Millstone  
Leslie Millstone  
Abe Mintz  
Jennifer Morgan  
Kelly Morgan  
Heather O'Brien  
Dayle Okamitsu  
Katy O'Neill  
Maureen O'Neil  
Jessica Ortiz  
Eric Page  
Katherine Palmer-Collins  
Caedmon Patalano  
Norman & Janet Pease  
Nancy & Ned Pike  
Catherine & Andrew Pines  
Wayne Phillips  
Jennifer Plumley  
Terry Pollack  
Julia Prinzi  
Will Prinzi  
Shawna Puljiz  
Jyotsna Puranik  
Stefanie Randelman  
Betsy & Dana Ream  
Barbara & David Reeves  
Kacy & David Richardson  
Pam Rhodes & Robert Andrews  
Janet Robinson  
Davina Roche  
Jacob Roden-Lowe

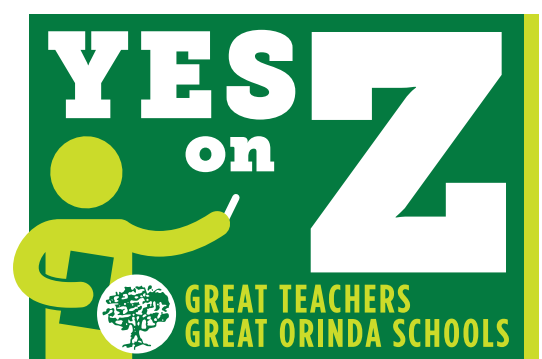
Nita Roethe  
Brian Rogers  
Taylor Rosa  
Dylan Rosenberg  
Lisa Rudolph  
Gabriel Sable  
Sarah Sable  
Amy Sabol  
Marshall Sachs  
Stephanie Sado  
Abby Sanchez  
Elizabeth Sarica  
Joel Schaffer  
Terry Schrittwieser  
Tracee Schultz  
Natalie Schutzman  
Lisa & Steve Sernett  
Charles Shannon  
Howard & Joyce Shao  
Joel Sheiman  
Kathy & Dave Simon  
Kirsten Slawson  
John Smith  
Wick Smith  
Nathaniel Sponsler  
Caitlin Stahle  
Keara Starnes  
Amy Stefanitsis  
Karleen Stern  
Michelle Stieler  
Heather Swedeen  
Jack Sweitzer  
Bridgette Thomas  
Heather Tiraschi  
Kristan Torres  
Kelly Trestrail  
Michelle Trosclair  
Mark & Marcie Tuttle  
Ted & Lida Urban  
Karen Ursino  
Alison Waterman  
Susan B. Wecht  
Janai West  
Richard Westin  
Deanna Wood  
Tom Worth  
Shauna Yeager  
Ellen Zapalac  
& Tony Foster  
*Partial list. Titles for identification purposes only.*

There are usually two sides to every argument, but check your ballot book...  
**There is no argument against Measure Z.**



NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE Z WAS SUBMITTED

**By March 7, Vote Yes on Z:  
KEEP GREAT TEACHERS IN ORINDA SCHOOLS**



# Council moves forward with final approval of Housing Element in 4-1 vote

... continued from Page A2

Mayor Carl Anduri said it had been determined that the number of fire stations is sufficient to meet the city's current needs, although upgrades to improve seismic circumstances at two of the stations is warranted and planned.

Public comments included concern about ADU levels in the report being too low; a suggestion to upzone more city properties in the site inventory to reduce overall density; map and mathematical errors or internal inconsistencies in the site inventory; and land parcels owned by other entities included in the inventory that might cause HCD to refuse the city's draft Housing Element. One example provided by the speaker representing the Housing Action Coalition stated that an unsubstantiated projection in the draft in an area involving AT&T was lacking a specific finding that in eight years time, AT&T was likely to vacate a property. If HCD or a court finds this or other matters overstate the number of units possible and therefore violate the law, the entire report could be deemed out of compliance and refused, according to the speaker. Several people urged the council

not to rush to meet the Jan. 31 deadline.

Wolff began his replies by explaining the staff's recommendation to adopt the 6th Cycle Housing Element by Jan. 31. He said while some cities and towns may choose not to meet the deadline, staff advised that in light of significant, negative funding impacts caused by a delay, completing the adoption process within the HCD timeline is highly recommended. Mayor Anduri confirmed the council's intention to meet the deadline.

Discussion next centered on how aggressive the city is when it comes to numbers in the draft, such as the number of ADUs projected or the specific acreage for sites where parking will be used or lost to development. With the goal of receiving approval from HCD with the first pass submission, the council heavily favored taking adequate steps to include realistic/evidence-based numbers that keep the city within compliance for affordable housing and achieve adequate fair housing enforcement levels.

It was agreed that a larger buffer achieved by better meeting the affordable housing requirement of 15-30% was desirable. Extended discussion was aimed at in-

creasing the number of units designated for affordable housing. Those amendments will appear in the final draft.

Addressing specific concerns brought up during public comments, Council Member Wei-Tai Kwok asked that staff request a letter from AT&T expressing their support for possible development on the site mentioned. Several council requests were made for staff to confirm and correct all map, zoning, and mathematical errors or inconsistencies. Precise numbers for city-owned property, ADUs, and multiple other elements in the plan received updates or were further refined to improve or clarify the percentages achieved. Other issues relating to compliance with HCD-designated levels and guidelines and staff and consultant's recommendations constituted the rest of the by-now lengthy, five-hour review.

The council certified the EIR with amendments incorporated and, with the exception of Council Member Susan Candell, voted 4-1 to adopt the resolution to accept the updated 6th Cycle Housing Element plan.

The city's draft Housing Element Update can be found at [www.planlafayette.org](http://www.planlafayette.org).

## Service Clubs Announcements

Every Friday, 7 – 8:15 a.m. Lafayette Veterans Memorial Building OR Zoom Link at <https://lamorindasunrise.org/speakers>

**February 2023 Weekly Speakers**

- February 3 – Voting rights from someone who knows them – Georgia State Senator Carden Summers
- February 10 – Community Update – Women in STEM
- February 17 – De-risking startup innovation for founders and investors – Kal Deutsch
- February 24 – LN4 Hand. Helping people live fuller lives. Candy Pierce

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community.  
Send a letter to the editor: [letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com)



## Over 80 years ago LAFAYETTE'S ICONIC PARK THEATER brought arts, culture, entertainment — and community — to downtown Lafayette. Now, it's COMMUNITY, working together, to bring this historic cinema back to life.

It is with deep gratitude that the Board of Directors of the all-volunteer Park Theater Trust acknowledges the following businesses, foundations, and civic partners for their **generous contributions in 2022** to The Park Theater Renovation Capital Campaign.

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| BAE Bay Area Electric Boats                   | J.V. Lucas Paving, Inc.                        | Patricia and Ashley Battersby, Village Associates Real Estate |
| Blodgett's Floor Covering                     | John Sperling Foundation                       | Overaa Family Group   |
| Bowles & Verna, LLP                           | Lafayette Chamber of Commerce                  | Rochford Real Estate Co,                                      |
| Cass Management Services                      | Lafayette Garden Club                          | Shawn Raiford Sax Productions, LLC                            |
| Clocks, Etc.                                  | Lafayette Glass Co.                            | Sideboard Kitchen   |
| Coit Family Foundation                        | Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa                     | Stillman Pacific, Inc.  |
| Community Foundation of Lafayette             | Lafayette Partners in Education                | Sunrise Rotary of Lamorinda                                   |
| Compass Marketing                             | Lafayette Social DBA Greet Lafayette           | The Hideout Kitchen   |
| Contra Costa County Livable Communities Trust | LAFPOS Associates, LLC, DBA Postino Restaurant | Town Hall Theatre Company                                     |
| Diablo Foods                                  | Lamorinda Music                                | Triple J Construction   |
| Dudum Real Estate Group                       | The John H. and Amy Bowles Lawrence Foundation | TWANDA Foundation   |
| Emerson Grace Design                          | Magu Family, Inc. DBA RÊVE                     | Warren & Cecile Thompson Charitable Foundation                |
| Expert Tree Service                           | Mechanics Bank                                 | Whole Foods   |
| Five Little Monkeys                           | Metro Lafayette                                | Wine Thieves  |
| Full Spectrum Sound Systems                   | Minuteman Press                                | Zahara Boutique Salon   |
| Generations in Jazz Foundation                | Miramar Mount Diablo Blvd., LLC                |   |
| Hollie's Homegrown                            |  |   |



Visit [parktheatertrust.org](http://parktheatertrust.org) for a cumulative list of business supporters and to learn how you can contribute to this exciting region-wide effort.

Our **2022 Honor Roll** of Park Theater Supporters is now posted on-site at the cinema.

### With sincere thanks,

The Park Theater Trust Board of Directors — Kathy Bowles, Jana Corey, Tracey Karsten Farrell, Angie Ferrif, Larry Haydon, John McCormick, Awais Mughal

The Park Theater Trust (TPTT) successfully purchased the Park Theater cinema for the community in 2021. TPTT's mission is to restore and operate Lafayette's iconic Park Theater building and revitalize it into an accessible and inclusive, community-centered cinema, arts, and culture hub with programming that includes critically acclaimed films, throwback favorites, and engaging non-film events.

The Park Theater Trust is a proud member of The League of Historic American Theaters, Arthouse Convergence, and the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce.



*Cantare* THE SONGS BY **THE BEATLES** Chamber Ensemble  
 Director: David Morales

Fri. Feb 10, 2023 | 7:30pm  
 Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley  
 1 Lawson Rd., Kensington, CA 94707

Sat. Feb 11, 2023 | 7:30pm  
 Lafayette Community Center, Jennifer Russell Auditorium  
 500 St Mary's Rd, Lafayette, CA 94549

General Admission: \$30 | Student: \$10 Tickets & information: [www.cantareconvivo.org](http://www.cantareconvivo.org) | 510.836.0789



~ Life in LAMORINDA ~

**Moraga 9-year-old launches charitable artisan chocolate business**



Photo Jenn Freedman

Kalyana Salvi creates a mold for her new Valentine's Day chocolates.

By Jenn Freedman

It's not often that a preadolescent starts a business, much less a business rooted in philanthropy. But that is exactly what Kalyana Salvi has done, along with the help of her mom, Tenaya Garrett. In the fall of 2022, they launched Chocolates for Change, an artisan chocolate company that grants 20% of profits to a different nonprofit organization each quarter.

Kalyana's passion for chocolate began early – she was just 2 when she started to express interest in becoming a pastry chef. A few years later, during COVID, she and her mom took advantage of the extensive time at home to study chocolate making. They learned to mold, temper, develop recipes, and even source chocolate from sustainable farmers, garnering as much information as they could from various cook-

books, YouTube, and even Netflix's School of Chocolate.

Toward the end of 2020, at the age of 6, Kalyana began to consider how she could parlay her passion for chocolate into a business. And together, she and her mom continued to develop recipes with that idea in mind.

"My favorite flavor that we make is guava. It is white chocolate on the outside with guava caramel and milk chocolate ganache inside." In addition to guava, two of her other bestsellers are strawberry (milk chocolate exterior with strawberry ganache filling) and brown sugar pecan (dark chocolate exterior with brown sugar pecan filling).

Or, to order chocolate for local delivery, go to [www.chocolatesforchange.com](http://www.chocolatesforchange.com). Orders will be filled once per month.

Finally, for the latest news and updates from Chocolates for Change, follow them on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/chocolatesforchange](http://www.instagram.com/chocolatesforchange).

What was her inspiration to give back as part of the business model? Kalyana has been in a unique position of having a front row seat to seeing philanthropy in action throughout her childhood. Her mom is the executive director of Sydney Paige Foundation, a local nonprofit that empowers students to succeed by providing equal access to the tools (e.g. backpacks and books) and confidence needed to learn and thrive in school and in life. And her older brother, 17-year-old Rylen, started a nonprofit when he was just 4 years old (with the help of mom, Tenaya, of course). Called R Strengths, the organization supports low-income youth by donating backpacks, school supplies, and clothing for back to school each fall and Easter baskets each spring.

"I just love giving back to people!" Kalyana shares. Linking chocolates to charity was truly a natural extension of the business. The causes she is most passionate about include climate change, clean water, and polar bears. This year's grants from Chocolate for Change will go to nonprofits leading change for these causes.

Her company's proposition is simple: If you love chocolate, why not buy from a company that is investing back into making a difference in the world?

You can support Chocolates for Change just in time for Valentine's Day by visiting them at the Sydney Paige pop-up shop at 1243 Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek on Friday, Feb. 10 from 4 to 7 p.m.

Currently, they are offering a box of 8 assorted chocolates for \$15, a bag of 3 assorted chocolates for \$5, and chocolate bars for \$10 each.

• Author Event •



The Lafayette Library & Learning Center Foundation and Orinda Books present:

**Karen Joy Fowler**

**Tuesday, February 7 at 7:00**

at the Lafayette Library & Learning Center Auditorium



Tickets available at [www.LLLCF.org](http://www.LLLCF.org) /Karen-Fowler



**TOWN HALL THEATRE COMPANY**  
 SPECIAL EVENT

*Spring Sing-Along*

**GREASE**

*Saturday, February 4th*

Trivia starts @ 6:30pm  
 Movie starts @ 8:00pm  
**\$25 in advance**  
**\$30 at the door**

Scan here for tickets & info 

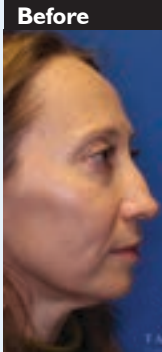


**TOWNHALLTHEATRE.COM**  
 925.283.1557  
 3535 SCHOOL ST. LAFAYETTE, CA



**TREE SCULPTURE**

**COMPLETE TREE CARE**  
*Proudly serving the East Bay since 1965!*  
 Fully Insured ❖ Certified Arborists ❖ License #655977  
**(925) 254-7233 ❖ [www.treesculpture.com](http://www.treesculpture.com)**

**Tamplen Plastic Surgery now in Orinda**

<p><b>Cosmetic Surgery</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facelift</li> <li>• Facial Implants</li> <li>• Neck Lift</li> <li>• Nose Surgery</li> <li>• Brow Lift</li> <li>• Eyelid Surgery</li> <li>• Ear Surgery</li> </ul>	<p><b>Laser &amp; Non-Surgical Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BOTOX® Cosmetic and Dysport®</li> <li>• Cosmetic Removal of Moles &amp; Skin Tags</li> <li>• Fillers (JUVEDERM®, JUVEDERM VOLUMA®, Restylane®)</li> <li>• Fraxel Re:Store Laser Treatment</li> </ul>	<p><b>Before</b></p> 
<p><b>Skin Care Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chemical Peels</li> <li>• Obagi® Consultation</li> </ul>	<p><b>After</b></p> 	 <b>TAMPLEN</b> PLASTIC SURGERY

Dr. Matthew Tamplen, who grew up in Lafayette and is a well-known Facial Plastic Surgeon with Kaiser Permanente, just opened a private practice in Downtown Orinda to better serve Lamorinda patients.

**Matthew Tamplen, MD**  
 Orinda Office:  
 77 Moraga way Suite G, Orinda  
 925-444-0824  
[TamplenPlasticSurgery.com](http://TamplenPlasticSurgery.com)

*Double Board-Certified Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon.*

## Colorful carrot concoction wows with shallots and cranberries



Roasted Rainbow Carrots & Cranberries

Photo Susie Iventosch

By Susie Iventosch

I cannot get over the splendor of all of the colorful carrots available in the markets these days. My very favorites are the maroon carrots with the or-

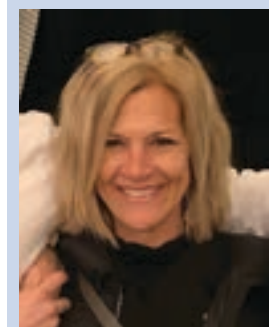
ange center, which are now available in bunches all by themselves. They tend to be just a tad bit sweeter than regular carrots, and they hold their color beautifully even after roasting them.

Maroon carrots are not only

beautiful, but like all carrots, they are low in calories and full of great health benefits like fiber, potassium, vitamins A, B & C, and manganese. The purple varieties also have antioxidants called anthocyanins, which help protect the body from oxidative stress — the imbalance between free radicals and antioxidants in your body.

Regardless of any health benefits, which are awesome, I just simply love the flavor of carrots and especially when roasted like this. Another great thing about this dish, which saves time when it comes to serving dinner,

is that you can prepare the carrots a day or two ahead of time and marinate them along with the cranberries and shallots. When you're ready to serve them, just roast them at 400 F for about 20-25 minutes.



Susie can be reached at [suziventosch@gmail.com](mailto:suziventosch@gmail.com). This recipe can be found on our website: [www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com). If you would like to share your favorite recipe with Susie please contact her by email or call our office at (925) 377-0977. Or visit <https://treksandbites.com>

### INGREDIENTS

(Serves 6-8)

- 8 large rainbow and maroon carrots
- 1 cup fresh cranberries (or frozen)
- 1 large shallot, peeled and diced
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 tbsp. maple syrup
- 1 tsp. Sambal or harissa (\*hot chili paste)
- 1 tbsp. soy sauce
- 1/2 tsp. dried thyme
- 1/4 tsp. white pepper
- 2 tbsp. snipped parsley for garnish

### DIRECTIONS

Marinate carrots, shallots and cranberries in marinade for at least 2 hours. Preheat oven to 400 F. Oil or spray a large roasting pan or baking sheet with cooking spray or olive oil. Place veggies along with all of the marinade on the prepared pan and roast for 20-25 minutes, or until carrots, cranberries and shallots are tender and beginning to brown. Serve hot and garnish with a sprinkling of snipped parsley leaves.

## Longtime Orinda News editor retires, moves on to follow love of acting



Sally Hogarty

Photo Sora O'Doherty

By Sora O'Doherty

After nearly 30 years of working for the Orinda Association, first as associate editor and for the past 22 years as editor, Sally Hogarty is retiring from The Orinda News to pursue other interests in her life.

No sooner did she step down, than she won an

audition for a television commercial for Bellus Health, which will soon be available on the internet. She was flown to New York City, where the commercial was filmed, but barely had time in her busy schedule to enjoy the Big Apple because she had to be back in California to star in a production of "I'm Herbert" at the Martinez Campbell Theater. Hogarty is excited about having more time for her theatrical pursuits.

She started as an associate editor at The Orinda News in 1993 and was promoted to editor in 2000. She worked continuously at the paper until the end of 2022. Hogarty discussed the history of the newspaper, which was started before World War II but was published sporadically. Ann O'Connell-Nye started it up again in 1985, which was the year that Orinda was incorporated as a city, and the paper has been published continuously since then.

During Hogarty's time at the paper, she says there were two stories that stood out: the development of the Gateway Valley, now Wilder, and the murders of restaurateur Maria Elena Corrieo, 68, and her daughter Gina Roberts, 51 in 1995. "It was very unusual to have an execution-style murder in Orinda, especially right on Moraga Way, Hogarty recalls. "It was very upsetting for everyone. I had never covered a murder before and learned a lot about accessing police reports and court documents. I also got to know the family and was happy for them when the perpetrators were finally apprehended."

She wrote about Gateway every issue for years as developers changed and lawsuits dragged on. She knew there were strong feelings pro and con from local residents. The City Council meetings were often packed and they went on until 1 a.m. Hogarty acknowledges that it was a very important story for the community.

But it wasn't all grizzly murders and late night meetings. Hogarty says that "one of the most fun things she covered was the Lamorinda Independent Film Festival. She enjoyed spending time with the var-

ious Hollywood celebrities. "I learned all sorts of behind-the-scenes info from Tippi Hedren about the filming of 'The Birds' and Hitchcock's unorthodox methods of dealing with actors."

Working for The Orinda News has been more than full time for Hogarty. She explained, "When I first started, the editor basically did everything except sell the advertising. You not only wrote stories and assigned writers, but you also pasted up the ads and the story galleys for the typesetter who then made them look good. We did have an editorial committee, but technology was still developing so I'd take a copy of the draft paper to one editor's home and when they were done, I'd pick it up and take it to the next home. Very time consuming. Sometimes we'd fax things back and forth but not everyone had a fax machine. When the typesetter had the final graphic file, it was too large to send via the computer so I'd have to drive it to our printer in Hayward." Nowadays, no one has to drive to Hayward, as the large graphic files of the layout are sent electronically.

Hogarty admits that "it's hard to tell how many hours I spent a month on the newspaper. Definitely a lot more than I was paid for. Up until 5 years ago, I would guess I spent 80-100 hours a month depending upon the size of the paper and how many stories I wrote. With a small paper, if a story comes up at the last minute or a writer doesn't turn his/her story in, the editor has to pick up the slack." She is gratified, however, that the newspaper has a very dedicated local staff that works more for the love of the paper and their community than for the money.

A little over three years ago, Hogarty split her job and hired someone else to deal with the writers and editing while she dealt primarily with the finances, ads, layout and some writing. The new executive editor of the paper is Kathy Cordova. The Orinda News is sent by mail to very residence in Orinda and can be found online at <https://theorindanews.com>

## The real life of an LPIE instructor



Laura Zucker

Photo courtesy Laura Zucker

By Sharon K. Sobotta

Laura Zucker still remembers leaving her law practice behind in Connecticut to embark on a fresh start in Lafayette with her partner and three children nearly two decades ago. It didn't turn out like she imagined it.

"My partner left me and suddenly, I found myself (to be) a single mom of three little kids in a place where I couldn't practice law and had no means of income," Zucker remembers with a bittersweet smile. "But I still had my guitar."

Zucker grew up in a music loving family, with a mom who sang opera and a dad who worked at a radio station and appreciated music even if singing wasn't his forte. She'd dabbled in music as a kid and in college, but it wasn't until 2006 that she really leaned into the beginnings of her identity as a musician. "I started going into classrooms and singing 'The Wheels

on the Bus' and all sorts of children's songs. And one day, a(n) original) song popped out of me and I was (awestruck)," Zucker says. "I started writing songs. It was really easy to access my emotions (through music) because they were so close to the surface."

Zucker then joined the West Coast Songwriters Association and then filled the open nooks and crannies of her life (not occupied by child rearing responsibilities) with open mics and musical gigs. Zucker released her first record in 2007. A few years later, Zucker started sowing the seeds for the next generation of potential musicians as a Lafayette Partners in Education (LPIE) instructor in the Lafayette School District.

Today, with six original albums under her belt and hundreds of youth that she's crossed paths with as a music (and in some cases, a substitute) teacher, Zucker says she can only hope she's making a small difference. "I want the kids to know that I have a really big life and that they are a part of my big life. I want them to know they are important," Zucker says. "There is something so rewarding about helping a child (who might otherwise be unsure of themselves) master an instrument and become proud."

Zucker has just released her latest album "Life-line," which she says is a story of the last five years which encapsulates the time of the pandemic. "A life-line is something we grab hold of. It keeps us from drowning. It's something that carries us forward or something that trails behind us for someone else to grab hold of. Sometimes we lead, sometimes we follow and sometimes we do both. There are multiple life-lines all woven together into a beautiful tapestry," Zucker explains with an ear-to-ear smile. "That's what this record is all about. It's about our life, our world. It's beautiful and it's written from my perspective as a nearly 65-year-old woman."

It's perhaps not surprising that the Lafayette School District is proud to have people like Laura Zucker, affectionately known as Mrs. Z by her students, in the mix as part of the infamous LPIE program. What Zucker thinks might be slightly surprising to parents and community members, however, is that she and many of her LPIE colleagues in the music program are not earning what they believe would be a fair wage in this community. Zucker explained that music classes in some of the elementary schools are taught in 30-minute blocks. There isn't built-in prep,

warm up or commuting time. This means that a teaching musical artist, who is compensated at the rate of \$30 an hour, typically earns \$15 for a given class. "By the time you factor in the commute, the gas, the driving time, it's hard to justify the pay."

Zucker and some of her LPIE colleagues have raised this issue to the superintendent and are awaiting further discussions this month. In terms of what would be fair or reasonable, Zucker says she'd love to see LPIE instructors (who are often freelancing artists who don't necessarily receive benefits) receive \$50 an hour and have a one-hour minimum. "LPIE is an important and lucrative program and I think it's important for parents and community members who contribute to know where the money is (or isn't) being spent. It's important to take care of those, who are doing this important work, who in many cases happen to be women."

In a written response to Lamorinda Weekly, Lafayette Superintendent Brent Stephens explains that the district highly values its decades-long relationship with LPIE instructors who provide supplemental art, music, science, world language and social studies instruction to the students. "(We're) committed to fair, competitive and equitable compensation for all our employees," Stephens writes. Although LPIE instructors are not a part of the two unions, whose compensation packages will be reviewed in spring, the district will be exploring LPIE compensation rates simultaneously. "We will be exploring compensation rates for LPIE instructors, who are not a part of the union but who are equally important to our students and families. We look forward to working collaboratively will all our employees on this process."

Regarding the frustration that Zucker says some music teachers experience when offered half-hour shifts, Stephens reiterated that LPIE staff are paid an hourly wage like all hourly employees but stopped short of commenting on alternatives like one-hour minimum shifts. Stephens says, however, that the Lafayette School District is committed to continuing to engage with the LPIE team through regular Zoom meetings not only to discuss pay, but also to get feedback and identify other issues that may also need to be discussed.

To learn more about Zucker's music, visit [www.laurazucker.com](http://www.laurazucker.com).

# Lamorinda trainers reaction to and preparation for any medical emergency



Miramonte trainer John Grigsby assesses a player for injuries. Photo Mark Bell

## By Jon Kingdon

In a nationally televised NFL football game on Jan. 2 Buffalo Bills safety Damar Hamlin collapsed on the field after being hit in his chest. The collision caused his heart to stop beating, creating a life or death situation with time being of the essence.

At every NFL game, there are at least 29 medical personnel on the field, among them primary care physicians, orthopedists, chiropractors, neurotrauma consultants, dentists, emergency medical technicians, an airway management physician and ophthalmologists, among others.

Even with all these specialists, it was Denny Kellington, an assistant trainer with the Bills, that was the first to get to Hamlin. He made a quick assessment and immediately began cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) until Hamlin was stable enough to be transferred to a waiting ambulance.

"The reasons we're talking about Hamlin's neurological function is due to his immediate access to good CPR and defibrillation," Dr. Timothy Pritt, one of Hamlin's doctors at the Cincinnati Medical Center, said. "The Bills' staff did really outstanding work."

Watching the dramatic events with great interest were high school trainers from Lamorinda and Saint Mary's College. "When you see a situation like that, as a trainer, I consider what I

would do, running through that scenario and talking it through," said Josh Shaw, St. Mary's Head Trainer.

Miramonte's Head Trainer John Grigsby was also watching the game with a critical eye. "I was in the mix watching the play and felt very involved and critical with what was going on in this and in all other situations," Grigsby. "It's always good to see how other people respond and see what they did right and what they did wrong."

Acalanes Head Trainer Chris Clark was trying to interpret what he was seeing on television. "My first reaction was that it wasn't head-related. Since I hadn't seen what type of impact Hamlin received, when I saw how they were working on him, I immediately thought about the possibility of commotio cordis (an injury that occurs when you're hit in the chest and that impact triggers a dramatic change in the rhythm of the heart), though I didn't think the hit was significant enough to send it into that."

As Hamlin recovers, Kellington's trainer colleagues emphasize the importance of his quick response after the hit. "I hope this event highlights the importance of the work that we do as athletic trainers and promotes us as professional health care providers for high schools, colleges, club teams and professional teams," Shaw said. "We are health care

providers, and that's what we're trained to do - take care of every situation that could arise. Many people have misconceptions about our roles and responsibilities. When they hear the word 'trainer' they think we tell people how to lift weights and how to do everything but what we do. I was glad to see how Kellington was prepared to do his job, and he had a great outcome."

There is a big difference between a certified athletic trainer and a personal trainer or fitness instructor that it is not surprising that the average person may not understand the distinction, as the word trainer is often used loosely to describe many people who work with athletes. "Athletic trainers are actually allied health care professionals like physical therapists, emergency medical technicians, paramedics and nurses, though there are still some people that think we just hand out towels and tape up a couple of players," Clark said. "I have talked with some health care professionals about what occurred in Buffalo, and they concluded that there aren't too many other places other than an NFL game where he might have survived. Given the set of circumstances with all of the trained personnel on hand, he absolutely got what he needed with everybody doing their job the right way."

For Miramonte's John Grigsby, it's not attention that trainers are looking for, it's the end result. "The recognition Kellington is getting is amazing, but I think most athletic trainers would agree to be satisfied with being the guy behind the guy, the team behind the team," Grigsby said. "We want the superstars to remain in the spotlight and if it's in our ability to keep them safely out there, that is recognition enough. It's tremendous that people are recognizing athletic trainers and why it's so important to have them at these events."

A trainers' job is not restricted to the athletic field. Shaw is on call at all times on the Saint Mary's campus as are high school trainers.

"When you do this job, you see a lot of different things and your goal is always to have a good outcome," Shaw said. "I was called to help with an office worker who they said had sprained his ankle. As he kept slurring his words, I realized that he was suffering from a stroke and immediately called for an ambulance. When you work in the healthcare field, you learn to identify those things. At the very least, you want to give them their best chance for survival."

Clark and Grigsby use incidents such as Hamlin's injury as teaching tools. "This was a really valuable learning experience for my class," Clark said. "We see numerous injuries that required on-field care, ranging from concussions to broken bones and now with Hamlin's heart stoppage. What we all saw was a reminder of how important an athletic trainer is and why we train our students in first aid, CPR and the use of the Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) so I have that extra set of valuable hands with me if necessary."

Each week, Grigsby's students describe various plays they've seen where an injury has occurred. "It's a perfect learning moment for them," Grigsby said. "On TV and YouTube, we're able to rewind and watch these events unfold, determining what we would have done, constantly rehearsing and practicing every situation. We've had cases of in and out of consciousness and a potential spinal cord injury. It can be scary in the moment, and that is why we constantly practice all of our emergency response systems."

AEDs are now standard equipment in most high schools and colleges. "At Saint Mary's we have AEDs in every facility and at all of our athletic venues," Shaw said. "We're all trained in cardiac issues but that is just part of the job, in that we're ready to handle any situation by constantly rehearsing our emergency action plans for whatever situation might arise whether it's during practice,

in a game or on campus."

The same basic training equipment requirements also apply to the high schools. "When I first arrived at Miramonte 18 years ago, we only had three AEDs on campus," Grigsby said. "Now, every school in the Acalanes Union High School District has at least six AED's on site. The more people that have the skill and the wherewithal to step in and be a good Samaritan is really necessary, and the more people that have the skill and experience the safer the rest of us are. Knock on wood, we haven't been called upon to use an AED yet."

At Acalanes, AEDs are located strategically across the campus. "We are ready to help anyone, whether it needs to be used on an athlete, a performer or somebody in the crowd," Clark said. "What happened in the Buffalo game was what was needed to be done was practiced many times, from the medical personnel to the ambulance services on standby. In this case, everything clicked, and all the training and practice they did leading up to that moment paid off because everybody did their job and saved his life."

All of the trainers interviewed agree that, at minimum, everyone, not just trainers, should learn the basics of Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and basic first aid skills along with being able to recognize the signs of distress. "If there is a lesson to be learned by what happened to Hamlin, it's how important it is for everyone to learn CPR, learning the signs of a stroke, how to help someone who's choking, and how to make the correct 911 call by providing the correct information to let the paramedics know what they need to bring to the scene," Shaw said. "The more someone knows, the less of a shock it will be to suddenly come upon a life and death situation. It's not always a great outcome but at least you can know that you did everything that you could, and if you gave somebody a chance to live at the end of the day,

## High School Visual Arts Competition returns to Orinda Library

LAMORINDA ARTS COUNCIL



Registration is now open for the 20th Annual High School Visual Arts Competition, which will be back in the Art Gallery at the Orinda Library for 2023. The online registra-

tion deadline is Friday, Feb. 17 at midnight, with artwork drop off at the Orinda Library on March 3, and the Artist & Awards Reception will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on March

16. There is no fee to enter, but the Lamorinda Arts Council welcomes donations of any size to support the High School Visual Arts Competition and the other volunteer-led programs. Suggested donation amount is \$25, which can be paid online at lamorindaarts.org or by check to Lamorinda Arts Council, PO Box 121, Orinda, CA 94563. In Person Exhibit (Art Gallery at the Orinda Library): March 5 - March 31; Online Exhibit: April 2023 - Feb. 2024. - J. Wake

## After the rain: Lake Cascade is full again



Photo Jeff Heyman

Thanks to the wave of recent storms, Lake Cascade, a favorite of Lamorinda dog walkers and joggers alike, has recovered from the drought. The human-made lake, which sup-

plies water to irrigate the golf course at the Orinda Country Club, is full again. So full, in fact, that the Club has had to release water, which creates a dramatic scene at the corner of

El Ribero and Camino Sobrante in Orinda: a 35-foot waterfall that cascades under OCC's swimming pool. While the storms have filled Lake Cascade, California has not fully recovered from the three-year old drought. Construction of Lake Cascade began in 1923 as part of the Haciendas del Orinda development, according to Alison Burns's book, "Orinda." When the OCC was completed in 1924, its "free-form" swimming pool was fed by Lake Cascade via the spectacular waterfall. The original pool, "hid in growths of shrub and vine and flower," is long gone, but the dramatic waterfall remains and acts as a scenic spillway for Lake Cascade. - Jeff Heyman

**When I say "good," you say "neighbor."**

**Mike Rosa**  
Agent  
925-376-2244  
Insurance Lic. #: OF45583  
346 Rheem Blvd., Suite 106  
Moraga

**Now that's teamwork.**  
CALL FOR A QUOTE 24/7

P097314.1 State Farm Home Office, Bloomington, IL

**All-Women Company Serving East Bay Residents for Over 20 Years**

**COMPLETE MOVE & COORDINATION SPECIALISTS**

★ CALL FOR A FREE CONSULTATION ★

**FULL PACKING & UNPACKING SERVICES**

**PACKING SERVICE INCLUDES:**  
plan, sort, pack, label and help with what to keep, toss, donate, consign

**UNPACKING SERVICE INCLUDES:**  
placing furniture, setting up kitchen, organizing closets, cupboards and drawers

Insured, Bonded, and Green

Nominated by SCORE for Outstanding Woman-Owned Small Business

**925.330.1988**  
hello@carefreemoves.net  
www.carefreemoves.net

## Lions Blood Drive gives gift of life



Photo provided

From left: Lion Karen Kalvass, Lion Peggy Hall, and volunteer Ceil Murtagh

### Submitted by Robert Murtagh

The Lamorinda Lions Club on Dec. 29, 2022, hosted a Blood Drive at Holy Shepard Lutheran Church, Orinda. A

total of 37 people kept their appointed times and a total of 34 pints of blood were donated. The blood is distributed to several hundred hospitals in Northern California. For more information on future Blood Drives, contact Lion Karen Kalvass at (925) 284-8130.

## Eagle project focuses on helping feed Ukrainian refugees

### Submitted by Irene Gough

Acalanes senior Tyler Gough, Life Scout from BSA Troop 243 in Lafayette, is in the final stages of earning the rank of Eagle Scout. For his Eagle project, Gough plans to raise \$5,000 and use the funds to pack 15,000 meals, with the help of Kids Against Hunger Bay Area, which will be sent to support Ukraine during its ongoing crisis. "The funds collected will be used to pay for the ingredients, to ensure the recipients are consuming quality food," Gough wrote on his GoFundMe page.

"Scouting has provided so many unforgettable opportunities and experiences, and I would love to be able to

give back to the community by addressing the issue of world hunger. Any help you can provide means so much to me as I seek to fulfill this dream," he wrote.

Gough is also asking for help at two upcoming packing events on Feb. 26 from 12:45 to 2:15 p.m. and March 4 from 5 to 6:30 p.m., which will be when the meals are prepared. Sign-ups are free and anyone is invited to attend.

For information, visit [www.gofundme.com/f/eagle-project-helping-ukrainian-refugees?member=24682035&utm\\_campaign=p\\_cp+share-sheet&utm\\_content=undefined&utm\\_medium=copy\\_link\\_all&utm\\_source=customer&utm\\_term=undefined](http://www.gofundme.com/f/eagle-project-helping-ukrainian-refugees?member=24682035&utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_content=undefined&utm_medium=copy_link_all&utm_source=customer&utm_term=undefined)

## Park Theater Capital Campaign on road to reaching its goal



Lamo archive

businesses, and foundations have donated to the Park Theater effort since 2018, with 190 new donors just from Nov. 15 to Dec. 31, 2022 alone. The \$3 million raised to purchase the historic Park Theater in December 2021 represented a huge showing of community support for this effort; these 2022 fundraising totals show that the desire to bring the Park back burns very bright indeed. Just think - if every Lafayette resident and every Lafayette business contributed to the Park's Renovation Capital Campaign, TPTT's goal of reopening in 2024 would be well on its way.

TPTT is asking that the momentum keeps going! Upcoming TPTT events and opportunities in 2023 include the TPTT golf tournament fundraiser to be held at Orinda Country Club on Monday, Aug. 28. TPTT is also excited to announce the formation of the Acalanes High School TPTT Booster Club led by two very enthusiastic students, Steph Boustani and Julia Johnson, and their faculty sponsor, drama teacher Ed Meehan. TPTT is so grateful for this interest and support because, certainly, the Park Theater is sure to be a favorite of the younger generation when it reopens!

TPTT has received City and County support (most recently \$25,000 from The Livable Communities Trust, thanks to Supervisor Candace Andersen), and is working with other government streams to secure additional funding. TPTT continues to seek major donor support, corporate and business donations, and other grant opportunities so critical to this transformational effort on behalf of Lafayette, Lamorinda, and the entire East Bay.

Please stop by the Park Theater to see a complete list of donors in 2022 or visit its website. Donations and pledges are cumulative toward fun Park Theater perks and meaningful recognition. Everyone can make a difference. For more information or to donate, please visit <https://parktheatertrust.org>.

### Submitted by Tracey Karsten Farrell

Thanks to generous support from the greater Lamorinda community, 2023 is off to a terrific start for the much-loved Park Theater. Despite the recent wet and windy weather, spirits are very sunny and bright indeed as The Park Theater Trust (TPTT) not only met the challenge of matching \$350,000 for the Park Theater Renovation Capital Campaign, the all-volunteer nonprofit crushed it, bringing in over \$460,000 during the time period of Aug. 1 and Dec. 31, 2022.

Add the \$350,000 donated by two generous Lafayette families and a total of \$810,072 was raised this last part of the year. The Challenge was a huge success and a major contributor to an overall strong fundraising year for the campaign to bring the Park Theater back to life: Total 2022 giving was \$1,290,900.

Fundraising is more than just a numbers game, it's also a participatory game, and TPTT is especially thrilled to report that 752 individuals,

## New exhibit 'Orinda: Photographs by Jeff Heyman' at Orinda Books



Photo Jeff Heyman

Orinda Books, an independent local bookstore in the heart of Orinda Village, is hosting a new photography exhibit, "Orinda: Photographs by Jeff Heyman," a collection of six iconic photographs of the East Bay city of Orinda.

The exhibit runs through the end of February. There will be an opening reception Saturday, Feb. 4, from 3 to 4 p.m. at Orinda Books (276 Village Square, Orinda). The bookstore is open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and is closed on Sundays.

First taking photography classes at San Ramon Valley High School in Danville, Calif., Heyman went on to earn a degree in Fine Art Photography

from San Francisco State University. He studied under the photographers Catherine Wagner, Don Worth, Jack Welpott and Melanie Walker, and painters Robert Bechtle and Paul Pratchenko.

Heyman, a Bay Area native who lives in Orinda, is a freelance photographer for the Lamorinda Weekly and The Orinda News. His photographs are published regularly and his work has been featured in several photography shows. This is his second solo exhibit.


"Orinda: Photographs by Jeff Heyman" at Orinda Books features a dramatic photograph of the Orinda Theatre at sunset as well as striking landscapes of the scenic city's hillsides.

Photographs from the exhibit can be viewed online here: <https://heymanfoto.smugmug.com/Exhibits/Heyman-Exhibit-Orinda-Books>

# In Memory

## Alan Cupples

Sept. 27, 1939 – Jan. 2, 2023



Alan Cupples of Pleasant Hill, California, passed away at home on Jan. 2, 2023, at the age of 83. Longtime resident of Orinda, born Sept. 27, 1939 in St. Louis, Missouri, Alan was the son of Jack and Hazel Cupples. Alan graduated from University City High School and then attended Washington University. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother Ronald "Bob" Cupples of St. Louis.

Alan is survived by his former wife Lynne Cupples of Pleasant Hill and their three daughters, Kate Cupples, Nicole (Patrick) Mullins and Jessica (Sekai) Greer, his sister Elaine Gelber, dear friend and partner, Fifi Goodfellow, as well as 6 grandchildren and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, great grandnieces and great grandnephews. He was a loving, dedicated father and even more devoted grandfather.

Aside from being an avid fan of his favorite professional baseball (A's) and basketball (Warriors) teams, Alan was an accomplished diver, baseball and football player. His love of sports continued well into his late 70s where he helped organize and played on the Lamorinda Lasers, a competitive, slow-pitch senior men's softball team. Alan also made it a point to attend almost each of every one of his kids' soccer games and grandkids basketball, baseball and football games.

Although Alan moved away from the St. Louis area in the mid-70s to pursue a successful career running Selix Formalwear based in the San Francisco Bay area, he maintained close ties with his lifelong St. Louis friends many of whom he truly considered to be like family.

Alan will be forever remembered by his many family members and friends with whom he always managed to share a copy or two of his favorite jokes or humorous stories.

## Share Your Celebrations and Remembrances

If you would like to share an announcement about a special event or achievement, such as a wedding, engagement, scholarship or graduation of a local resident, or about a special person from Lamorinda who has passed, send a photo along with your text (up to 250 words) to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com), and include "Celebrations and Remembrances" in the subject line.

**Community Service:** We are pleased to make space available whenever possible for some of Lamorinda's dedicated community service organizations to submit news and information about their activities. Submissions may be sent to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com) with the subject header In Service to the Community.

Submit stories or story ideas to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆

**Art**

**Moraga Art Gallery's exhibit** "Light and Fire," opened Jan. 18, features the work of two celebrated member artists from Lafayette: Lucy Beck, an award-winning photographer and ceramicist Donna Arganbright. John Hopper of Walnut Creek is the featured guest artist. A free reception will be held on Saturday, Feb. 4 from 5 to 7 p.m. The gallery, in the Rheem Shopping Center at 432 Center Street, Moraga, is open Wednesday to Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. For more information visit [www.moragaartgallery.com](http://www.moragaartgallery.com) or call (925) 376-5407.

**Music**

**Cantare, an Oakland-based** non-profit community choral organization, presents "Songs by the Beatles," performed by the 20-voice Chamber Ensemble with Director David Morales. A wonderful evening for you and your Valentine! Saturday, Feb. 11, at 7:30 p.m., Lafayette Community Center, Jennifer Russell Auditorium, 500 St. Mary's Rd, Lafayette. General Admission: \$30; Students: \$10. Visit [www.cantareconvivo.org](http://www.cantareconvivo.org) for tickets and more information, including health/safety guidelines. Contact: [info@cantareconvivo.org](mailto:info@cantareconvivo.org), (510) 836-0789.

**Ensemble for These Times** presents "Call for Scores: Solo Piano" on Saturday, Feb. 25, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., at Berkeley Piano Club, 2724 Haste Street, Berkeley. Emerita pianist extraordinaire Dale Tsang returns to celebrate E4TT's 15th anniversary with works chosen from a new Call for Scores for solo piano. Cost: \$0 - \$30. For more info see <https://e4tt.org/solopiano.html> or call (510) 684-0505 or email [info@e4tt.org](mailto:info@e4tt.org).

**Orinda native Juliana Athayde**, daughter of former Stanley Middle School music director Bob Athayde, returns to the Bay Area to perform Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto with the Diablo Sym-

phony Orchestra on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 26, at the Leshner Center for the Arts. Beginning at 2 p.m. the program will be conducted by music director and conductor Matilda Hofman as well as "conduct the orchestra" auction winners Kathryn Crandell and Bill Rudiak. Advance tickets are available at the Leshner Center for the Arts box office (925) 943-7469 or by visiting [www.diablosymphony.org/](http://www.diablosymphony.org/). Tickets are \$40 for adults and \$10 for youth 13-17. Children 12 and under are free but need a ticket, and a discounted ticket price of \$30 is available for groups of 10 or more seniors ages 62 and up. Tickets will also be available at the door.

**"Chopin In Paris,"** conducted by California Symphony's Music Director Donato Cabrera, will be presented Saturday, Feb. 4, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 5, 4 p.m. at the Hofmann Theatre at Leshner Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek. A 30-minute pre-concert talk and Q&A led by Cabrera will begin one hour before each performance. Information and tickets (\$49-\$79) are available at [CaliforniaSymphony.org](http://CaliforniaSymphony.org).

**Other**

**Free Tax preparation** will again be offered by AARP Tax-Aide. The service, provided by volunteer IRS certified tax counselors, is available starting in February. Tax-Aide does not have an income limit, but helps low to moderate income taxpayers of any age, with

special attention given to seniors 50-plus. Starting mid-January, appointments and information are available by calling (925) 726-3199 for the Walnut Creek-Rossmoor site; (925) 272-0902 for the Danville-Veterans Memorial Bldg. of SRV site; (925) 973-3250 for the San Ramon Senior Center site. For general Tax-Aide information and other locations, call (925) 726-3199.

**Celebrate Valentine's Day** and help a local high school fundraiser for future events with a delicious family dinner from Casa Turing, Moraga's new Cal-Mex restaurant from the owners of Town Bakery! Boxed and ready for pickup on Tuesday, Feb. 14, you'll enjoy 12 mouth-watering street tacos (4 carnitas, 4 steak, 4 chicken), a generous tray of 8 chicken enchiladas, and a delicious dessert. Order by Feb. 9 via the Campolindo High School webstore: [https://campolindo.revtrak.net/Freshman-Class/?fbclid=IwAR2PoyRHrrmeEID7v8DnbsLt2l\\_gdC1Hg5c1344lApHg23Ez3-oR2W6iWeg#v/Casa-Turing-Valentine-Dinner-641](https://campolindo.revtrak.net/Freshman-Class/?fbclid=IwAR2PoyRHrrmeEID7v8DnbsLt2l_gdC1Hg5c1344lApHg23Ez3-oR2W6iWeg#v/Casa-Turing-Valentine-Dinner-641)

**Scottish Country Dancing Classes.** Adult Beginner's Thursday nights 7 to 8:30 p.m. lessons are \$8 each. Experienced Dancers continue until 9:30 p.m. All Lessons are with the Lafayette class of the San Francisco Branch located at The Danville Grange 743 Diablo Road, Danville. Come and enjoy the music, and friendly people. Please wear comfortable clothes and soft shoes. No partner

required. (Proof of Covid-Vaccination required.) For more information, please call: Kathleen - (925) 934-6148 or Monica (925)575-7637.

**Shawl-Anderson Dance Center** presents Queering Dance Festival's Queer Valentines Day on Sunday, Feb. 12, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., at the John Muir Elementary School blacktop, 2955 Claremont Ave, Berkeley. Queer Valentine's Day is an all-ages, outdoor event that celebrates love in all forms! Free. For more info see [www.eventbrite.com/e/qdfpresents-queer-valentines-an-all-ages-outdoor-celebration-tickets-512325498357](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/qdfpresents-queer-valentines-an-all-ages-outdoor-celebration-tickets-512325498357) or call (510) 654-5921 or email [jessi@shawl-anderson.org](mailto:jessi@shawl-anderson.org).

**Brasarte presents Yemanja Arts Festival 2023** in Berkeley Feb. 11, 8 p.m., San Francisco Feb. 12, 7 p.m., at BrasArte, 1901 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley and Dance Mission Theater San Francisco. Special Brazilian music and dance performance in honor of Yemanja. BrasArte.com Cost: \$35 in advance, \$45 @ door. For more info see [www.Brasarte.com](http://www.Brasarte.com) or call (510) 528-1958 or email [Brasarte-Berkeley@gmail.com](mailto:Brasarte-Berkeley@gmail.com).

**Garden**


**Moraga Garden Club** - Feb. 16. "Healthy Soil, Healthy Plants" is Master Gardener Mike Corby's topic. No better time than now to prepare for your healthy spring planting. Please, join us at 9:30 a.m. for nibbles, Program to fol-

low, at 1700 School Street. We are open and free to the public. [moragagardenclub.com](http://moragagardenclub.com)

**The Feb.17 meeting** of the Montelindo Garden Club will feature Lori Palmquist, professional irrigation specialist, speaking on "Water in the Garden - Taking Control." Membership is open to all, and interested people are welcome to visit [montelindogarden.com/meetings.html](http://montelindogarden.com/meetings.html) for meeting and club details. Location is the Lafayette Library Community Hall, 3491 Mt Diablo Blvd, Lafayette. The hall opens at 9:30 a.m., with club meeting at 10 a.m. and speaker at 10:45 a.m. Free.

**The Walnut Creek Garden Club** will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, Feb. 13 at the Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Dr, in Walnut Creek. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., followed by a brief business meeting, social time and an educational program, "Bees, Bees, and More Bees," given by the Mount Diablo Beekeeper's Association (MDBA). MDBA has a dedicated group of novice and expert volunteers who are determined to promote beekeeping, support best practices and create habitats for honeybees and pollinators. Learn how you can "bee" a part of the process through your own garden. We welcome the public to visit our meetings and to become a part of the Walnut Creek Garden Club. For more information, please visit: [www.walnutcreekgardenclub.org](http://www.walnutcreekgardenclub.org). MDBA Website: [www.diablobees.org](http://www.diablobees.org)


*Lamorinda's Religious Services*



**JOIN US**  
**SUNDAYS AT 9:30 AM**  
OR ONLINE AT [MVPCTODAY.ORG](http://MVPCTODAY.ORG)



10 Irwin Way, Orinda | 925.254.4906 | [www.orindachurch.org](http://www.orindachurch.org)  
*"No matter who you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!"*  
Sunday Service 10 am or join us online.  
Mondays 9:30 am Centering Prayer in the Chapel  
Wednesday 10 am Contemplative Worship in the Chapel



**Lafayette United Methodist Church**  
955 Moraga Road 925.284.4765 [thelumc.org](http://thelumc.org)  
**Sunday 10am in person worship**  
We are a church that strives to love as Jesus loves.  
Our congregation welcomes, includes, and affirms everyone on their journey of faith regardless of race, ethnicity, age, economic status, physical and mental ability, sexual orientation or gender identity.



**Practical biblical teaching, contemporary worship, come as you are.**  
[www.willowspringchurch.com](http://www.willowspringchurch.com)  
1689 School St. Moraga | 925-376-3550  
**10:45 AM Sunday Service**

**St. Anselm's Episcopal Church**  
An Open, Affirming & Loving Community  
**In-Person & Virtual service Sun. at 9:00 AM**  
If someone would like to be added to our Zoom invitation please call 925-284-7420 or email [cathy.w@stanselms.us](mailto:cathy.w@stanselms.us)  
682 Michael Lane, Lafayette, [www.stanselms.us](http://www.stanselms.us)



**St Stephen's Episcopal Church**  
Worshipping, Learning, Serving  
[www.ststephensorinda.org](http://www.ststephensorinda.org)

**ORINDA CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH**  
24 Orinda Way (next to the Library)-925-254-4212  
**Sunday Services and Sunday School 10-11 am**  
Informal Wednesday Meeting 7:30 - 8:30 pm  
All are welcome  
[www.christianscienceorinda.org](http://www.christianscienceorinda.org)

*You are invited to join us!*  
A WELCOMING AND LOVING  
COMMUNITY OF FAITH  
that LEARNS, GROWS, AND SERVES  
**TOGETHER.**  
Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church | 49 Knox Drive • Lafayette, CA  
**LOPC.ORG**



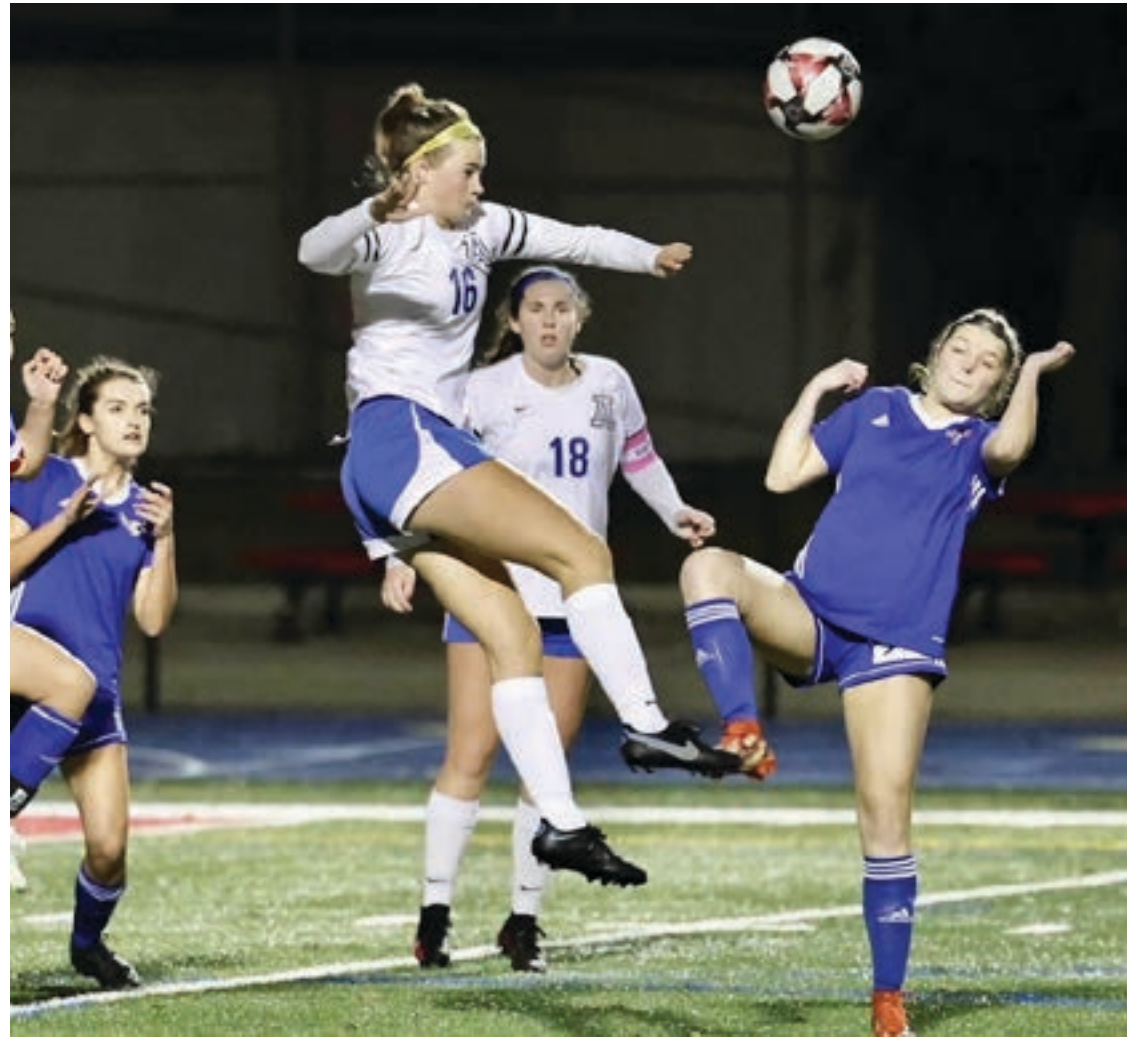
**OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
SUNDAY SOUL FORUM | 8:30AM  
SUNDAY WORSHIP | 9:30AM  
IN PERSON OR FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE LIVESTREAM  
WWW.OSLC.NET | FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM  
1035 CAROL LANE, LAFAYETTE, CA 94549 | 925.283.3722 | [SPIRIT@OSLC.NET](mailto:SPIRIT@OSLC.NET)

**Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
433 Moraga Way, Orinda, 254-3422  
[www.holyshepherd.org](http://www.holyshepherd.org)  
ONLINE WORSHIP SCHEDULE  
Facebook Premiere Community Worship every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Go to [facebook.com/HSLCOrinda/](http://facebook.com/HSLCOrinda/)  
WORSHIP SCHEDULE In person worship at 9:30 a.m. Live stream on [facebook.com/HSLCOrinda/](http://facebook.com/HSLCOrinda/)  
Visit our website to access the current and recent sermons.

**Lamorinda Weekly**  
is an independent publication for the residents of Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda, CA. 25,000 printed copies; delivered to homes in Lamorinda.  
**Contact us:**  
Letters to the editor (max 350 words): [letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com)  
Delivery issues: [homedelivery@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:homedelivery@lamorindaweekly.com)  
Event listings: [calendar@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:calendar@lamorindaweekly.com)  
Business press releases: [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com)  
General interest stories/Community Service: [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com)  
School stories/events: [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com)  
Sport events/stories/pictures: [sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com)  
**Publishers/Owners:** Andy and Wendy Scheck; [andy@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:andy@lamorindaweekly.com), [wendy@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:wendy@lamorindaweekly.com)  
**Editor:** Jennifer Wake; [jennifer@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:jennifer@lamorindaweekly.com)  
**Sports Editor:** [sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com)  
**Advertising:** 925-377-0977, Wendy Scheck; [wendy@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:wendy@lamorindaweekly.com)  
**Staff Writers:** Vera Kochan; [vera@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:vera@lamorindaweekly.com), Sora O'Doherty; [Sora@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:Sora@lamorindaweekly.com), Jon Kingdon; [sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com)  
Digging Deep: Cynthia Brian; [Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com](mailto:Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com)  
Food: Susie Iventosch; [suziventosch@gmail.com](mailto:suziventosch@gmail.com)  
**Contributing Writers:** Conrad Bassett, Sophie Braccini, Diane Claytor, John T. Miller, Fran Miller, Jenn Freedman, Mona Miller, Kara Navolio, Moya Stone, Margie Ryerson, M.D. Jones, Linda Fodrini-Johnson, Lou Fancher, Jeff Gomez, Chris Rauber, Sharon K. Sobotta  
**Photos:** Tod Fierner, Gint Federas, Jeff Heyman  
**Layout/Graphics:** Andy Scheck. Printed in CA.  
**Mailing address:** Lamorinda Weekly, 1480 Moraga Road STE C #202, Moraga, CA 94556  
Phone: 925-377-0977; email: [info@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:info@lamorindaweekly.com)  
**website:** [www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com)

# LAMORINDA SPORTS

## Winning seasons underscore growth of Lamorinda girls soccer teams



Acalanes players Emma Cronin (16) and Addie Bailey (18)

Photo Brian Mikalis

### By Jon Kingdon

Acalanes and Campolindo girls soccer teams have continued the success they achieved last season and Miramonte has joined them with an equally successful season.

#### Miramonte

With the arrival of head coach Taylor Abbott, there has been a major turnaround at Miramonte from last year's 3-15-1 team to this year 8-3-2 team. It was a combination of Abbott wanting to bring Miramonte a successful program and the seniors who made it clear to him of their desire for the same thing.

"It was sad to see the downturn at Miramonte," Abbott said. "I wanted to bring some new energy, along with a youthful coaching staff and see what we could do. Most of the time we have four coaches out here at practice, and that helps a lot."

The seniors on the team contacted Abbott expressing their commitment to this season. "They reached out to me by email letting me know what they wanted to achieve and that set the tone," Abbott said. "They wanted a more intense practice schedule; they wanted their coaches to be prepared and ready and did not want to repeat the failures of the last couple seasons. They knew they weren't getting the most out of their talent and just wanted to put all the pieces together."

With an equal number of upper and lower classmen, Miramonte is built for long-term success. "The seniors were excited to finish their ca-

reers successfully," Abbott said. "We have a lot of young talent on the roster, with two freshmen already starting and making big contributions."

Abbott's philosophy can be summed up in one word: possession. "We like to build up the play and see if we can attack from the sides, but maintaining possession and really trying to wear down our opponents is probably what I would believe in most," Abbott said.

The five senior captains are Avery Welch, Jada Dietrich, Tahra Minowada, Addison Creson, and Lola Kassela. The overall senior leadership and the talent of the underclassmen has proved to be an effective combination. "We have a lot of young people who are hungry to contribute," Abbott said. "Five of our freshmen played on the same club team, so they've all been able to work cohesively and it's been really fun to watch."

The starting freshmen are Camilla White, Inara Inesi, and Sawyer Bohlig. "I'm going to play the best players that are suited for the team in any given game," Abbott said. "They came in, earned their spot, and we haven't looked back. I firmly believe in development, which is why we're really excited to get three teams in the program this year."

The leaders on offense are sophomore Olivia Penney, who is the team's leading scorer, Inesi and senior co-captain Jada Dietrich. "Jada has been playing center mid, scoring goals and making lots of assists and in my biased

opinion could be our league MVP," Abbott said.

Senior Caroline De Bourbon has been starting in the net with senior Megan Doran coming in off the bench. "Each has been excellent so far this season," Abbott said. "With no prior experience, Caroline showed up to an open tryout for goalies and has really taken it head on. She is fearless and is getting more comfortable in the goal. There will be times when we won't see her until the end of the day because she's been off working on her trade, from basics to diving, balls in the air, drop kicks and being aware of where her line and spacing is on the field."

The defense is giving up less than a goal a game with six shutouts led by three senior captains - outside back Addison Creson, outside left Lola Kassela, Tahra Minowada in the center and Camilla White at center back. "Our defense has been tremendous in not allowing a lot of shots and scoring opportunities which makes the goalie's job even easier."

For Abbott, it's a matter of the team not making any missteps the rest of the season. "We play a really fast-paced possession style soccer game," Abbott said. "The only games we've lost have been off of our own mistakes. If we can play a clean game, dictating the tempo of the game and play the way that we want to, we can compete with any of the teams that are out there."

#### Acalanes

Last year's Acalanes team had a great mix of upper and lower classmen on the roster

on a team that went 20-3, making it to the CIF NorCal Soccer championship tournament. This year's team, ranked 14th by the Bay Area News Group, has a similar mix of upper and lower classmen and has a 7-1-5 record so far.

Head coach Nick Barbarino sees a strong comparison with each team. "This team is very similar to last year's team but we're still getting to know each other," Barbarino said. "We have some new kids that are starting and some seniors that are stepping into new roles and a number of players missed the early part of the season due to the club layover. It's nice to have veteran experience combined with the youth who pushing the upperclassmen and keeping them on their toes."

Leadership is coming from the four senior captains, all of whom lettered as freshmen - Tatum Zuber, Addie Bailey, Jacque Peacock and Chloe Quintella. "They all learned from the senior class when they were freshmen," Barbarino said. "They each have different roles - positivity, hard work, planning things outside of practice and insuring everyone comes to practice. It's been great to see them grow and it's hard to believe that they're already seniors."

After scoring 21 goals in the first three games, the offense has only scored nine goals in the next 10 games. "Jacque Peacock was a defender and is now on the wings with Zuber and Bailey," Barbarino said. "We're getting the shots and opportunities but we haven't finished them but I believe it's going to come around in the second half."

The defense has had 11 shutouts and only given up two goals this season. "Our defense has been fantastic this year," Barbarino said. "Our center backs Chloe Quintella and Demi Woods have been holding it down all year. Freshman Tori Hiatt has been fantastic on the last back spot and has shown the ability to shut down our opponent's best player. With Taylor Carlin, a three-year starter at right back we have a good mix of young and old on the defense."

Senior Catherine Judson is in her third year as the Don's goalie. "It's been great to see how much Catherine has improved each year," Barbarino said. "She has a great ability to make the high save. She's very calm with the ball at her feet which lets us build out and gives our defense a little bit more time."

Barbarino is preaching patience to his team: "We just need them to trust ourselves, each other, our veterans, our teammates. If we focus on that, we're going to do well in the second half."

#### Campolindo

Campolindo is another team that is coming off a successful season (13-4-4) and, with a strong senior class and a number of freshmen, has a record of 9-3-1 this year. "I think that we're still hungry," head coach Luis Diaz said. "We have 11 seniors providing the motivation for all of the players to prove that they can be competitive plus the culture that we have is picking up where we left off. This senior class has shown their commitment to the program and the underclassmen are getting great experience."

Leading the team are four senior starters, Catie McCauley, Audrey Le-Nguyen, Collette Toubba and Ava Garcia. "They all bring a lot of leadership and culture, setting good habits and high standards," Diaz said. "The senior group has been a fun group to coach because the underclassmen are always challenging and pushing them."

On offense, it's more of a group effort than one of individual stars. "Le-Nguyen moved to outside player from midfield and has been a great leader and also defends," Diaz said. "It's been good for the underclassmen to see how she is adapting. Junior Mylie Jaquet and freshman Grace Charles have stepped up and sophomore Maya Abughosh scored both goals to defeat Clayton Valley."

Leading the defense has been seniors Ava Garcia and Catie McCauley. "They are both having really good years," Diaz said. "Ava has done a great job in locking up players in the back and really helping the underclassmen and Catie, at right back, has been helping us get up the field along with playing well on defense."

Diaz has been utilizing two goalies, starting senior Ana Mooradian, and junior Maya Schwartz. "Ana's attitude and effort have always been great while still working on the mental strength required for the position," Diaz said. "She has great mobility and leadership, pushing us up and getting us back. Maya is a former basketball player who is in her first year with the program and is showing a lot of potential and just needs a little bit more time to adapt to our program."

Diaz is expecting things to come together in the final part of the season. "Where we are making the biggest changes is from our forwards to our midfielders," Diaz said. "We're struggling a little in this area because we have four new players in the top five front players who were backups last year but they're adapting to things quickly. Our goal is to continue to keep on growing and developing at the right time which will be when the NCS playoffs begin."

## Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified

### Structural Repairs

Since 1989  
**Alameda Engineering**  
**DRAINAGE SYSTEMS**  
**RETAINING WALLS**  
**FOUNDATIONS**  
**UNDERPINNING**  
**LANDSLIDE REPAIRS**  
**510-537-6550**  
**General Engineering Contractors**  
 Lic. # 562641  
 alamedaengineering@comcast.net  
 alameda-engineering.com

### TAX PREPARATION

**INCOME TAX PREPARATION**  
 For Individuals And Investors.  
 Let us solve your tax problems.  
 Walnut Creek. Rex Crandell  
 (925) 934-6320.  
 rexrtrandell@astound.net

### Drainage Systems

**Ken's Rototilling & Drainage Systems Landscaping**  
 • French Drains Installed  
 • Brush Removal Abatement  
**To Fire Dept Regulations**  
 Free estimates! **925-938-9836**  
 licensed, bonded & insured. CA#667491  
 www.kensrototilling.com

### Fencing

#### Custom Quality Fencing



- Good Neighbor Fence
- Deer Fencing
- Picket/Split Rail
- RV Gates
- Trellis and Arbors
- Retaining Walls
- Insurance/Storm Repairs

licensed, bonded & insured. CA#667491

### Handyman

**Quetzal Handyman & Housecleaning Services**  
**NO JOB TOO SMALL**  
 Electrical, plumbing, concrete, driveways & more...  
**Housecleaning Service**  
**Please call Carlos Toledo**  
**510-689-7490**

### Rusty Nails Handyman Service

Repair • Restore • Revamp  
 Call Rusty- (925) 890-1581

### Plumbing

**WE HOP TO IT!**  
**(925) 377-6600**  
 LeapFrogPlumbing.com

### House Cleaning

**www.totalclean.biz**

Serving Lamorinda since 1985.  
 Insured and bonded 376-1004.



# Dyer wins his 150th game for Campolindo

By Jon Kingdon

Steven Dyer, beginning his seventh year as Campolindo's head basketball coach, had a composite won-lost record of 137 and 37. On Jan. 18, with a 77-39 win over College Park, Dyer reached a milestone, as this was his 150th victory against only 42 defeats, a winning percentage of 78.1%.

Going back to the two years Dyer played for the Campolindo varsity basketball team to his five years as an assistant coach at Miramonte to six-plus seasons as the Cougars head coach, each of these teams made the post-season playoffs. When this was brought to his attention, his reaction was simple: "I guess it's true now that you say it," Dyer said.

The Campolindo teams that Dyer played for in 2005-06 and 2006-07, had a combined 48-11 record, going 5-2 in the post-season. "I played with a lot of good players, and we had a really good coach in Chris Whirlow," Dyer said.

Besides Whirlow, Dyer credits Drew McDonald who was the head coach at Miramonte when he was an assistant coach there and Saint Mary's Randy Bennett. "I learned a lot under Drew, and he had a big influence on me and I'm fortunate to have him on my staff now," Dyer said. "I've talked with Randy a lot and he has been very helpful to me in my career along with other people as well."

Dyer took over a team that had a 14-14 record the prior year and coached them to a 20-11 record. "That was a great senior class that was committed to having a better season than the year before," Dyer said. "We had a lot of tough kids and good leaders in our senior class like Chris Wright, Tom Caprio, Lev Garcia and Mike Navruzyan that really wanted to win. It was a really positive experience for me with that group."

Also on that team were four players, sophomores David Ahazie, Jake Chan, Peter Schmitz, and freshman Carter Mahaney who would go on to play on Campolindo's state championship team two years later.

Trevin Kroichick, a junior on Dyer's first team at Campolindo, saw an immediate change in the team from Dyer's first practice. "Coach Dyer brought a sense of

structure and instilled discipline, which was the biggest thing for all of us, making sure we showed up to practice on time, running drills full speed, making sure we were sound defensively," Kroichick said. "Thankfully everyone bought into it. He's a brilliant X's and O's coach and was very strategic game to game in laying out our game plans."

Dyer has always described himself as a defensive coach and his Campolindo teams have averaged giving up only 52 points a game. Over the last 192 games, Campolindo has held their opponents under 60 points 142 times (74%), twice holding teams to 18 and 17 points and have only allowed their opponents to score more than 70 points 15 times (7.8%).

Dyer vividly recalls the game where his team gave up the most points - 98 in his second year. "I definitely remember that game," Dyer said. "It was a breakthrough win for us against Clayton Valley. The game went into a double overtime, and we won 100-98 with Garrett Pascoe scoring 45 points for them."

Kroichick saw how Dyer left little to chance. "Coach Dyer was incredible with scouting our upcoming opponents, either sending an assistant coach or going to a game himself," Kroichick said. "We would watch film and our strategies, especially defensively, would change with every opponent, which was something we didn't do prior to his arrival which really allowed us to be successful."

Even more impressive about Dyer's Campolindo teams has been their success in the post season with an overall record of 22-7 and in the state tournaments with a 13-3 (81.3%) record. It's a combination of talent and toughness, according to Dyer. "You have to have good players making big plays in playoff moments, which we've had," Dyer said. "I've always believed in playing a hard schedule in the regular season so that we're ready for a lot of different situations in the playoffs. There are a couple of years where we had to win a bunch of games on the road in the playoffs. You have to also be fortunate and get some luck because every team in the playoffs is going to be pretty even."

With all that, it also comes down to simple effort and desire for Dyer: "It's just about guys playing as hard



Steven Dyer

Photo provided

as they can, guys buying into playing team basketball, guys buying in on the defensive end. All of our teams have at least tried to do that to the best of their ability and when you have good players, it makes it a lot easier."

# Robbie Mascheroni named to 3rd team all-state football team by MaxPreps



Robbie Mascheroni

Photos provided



Rob, Robbie and Karen Mascheroni

By Jon Kingdon

This past fall, Robbie Mascheroni, concluded his two-year varsity career as a wide receiver at Campolindo, having caught 136 passes for 2,560 yards, averaging 18.8 reception and 37 touchdowns, with the Cougars making it to the state tournament his junior year and to the NCS finals as a senior. Such productivity led Mascheroni to be named third team all-state by MaxPreps.

The first, second and third teams as selected by MaxPreps totaled 86 players. With approximately 86,000 high school football players in the state of California, the odds of being chosen all-state was 1,000 to 1.

"I was very excited to hear about it because it was a goal of mine at the start of the year to be named to one of the all-state teams and it was a good accomplishment for me," Mascheroni said.

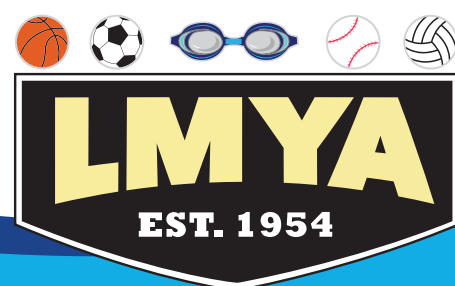
... continued on Page C3

# LMYA SWIM TEAM

## Registration Opens February 1<sup>st</sup>



- **Sunday Stroke Clinics** begin **March 5<sup>th</sup>**  
*(stroke specific sessions)*
- **April Conditioning** begins **April 11<sup>th</sup>**  
*(get in swim shape!)*
- **Summer Swim Team** begins **May 1<sup>st</sup>**



[www.lmyaswim.com](http://www.lmyaswim.com)

# Lamorinda soccer player on Best of the West team



Kai Thomas on right

Photo Luc Narido

Submitted by Arleen Thomas

Soccer player Kai Thomas, 17, was selected for the MLS NEXT Best of the West team. In an

all-star game in Indio, Calif. his team defeated the Best of the East team scoring 5-4 at the nationwide showcase featuring over 400 MLS NEXT soccer teams. Thomas played as striker on the team.

# Robbie Mascheroni named to 3rd team all-state football team by MaxPreps

... continued from Page C2

"My parents (Rob and Karen) and Coach Macy and the staff have been motivating me every step of the way. They never let me slack off and kept me in line and allowed me to find a love for the game that I was then able to generate by myself so I could do it and enjoy doing it."

Kevin Macy has had a number of players that have been named all-state such as Griffin Piatt, Tyler Petite, Sterling Strother and Brett Stephens. However, the naming of all-state players has evolved which has made being named all-state more difficult.

"There used to be multiple all-state teams differentiating small schools but they no longer break it down in that way which really reduces the opportunities to be named selected," Macy said. "There is also much more exposure for the players, so for Robbie to make it now is really impressive."

From his freshman year, Dashiell Weaver was

Mascheroni's quarterback through his senior year, a connection that began years earlier. "We grew up playing basketball and flag football, building a friendship and chemistry that carried over on to the field," Mascheroni said. "The highlight for my high school career was playing football on Friday nights with my best friends that I've had through school. It was a blast playing with the people that I've grown up with."

Though clearly a superior talent, Mascheroni in the end was just one of the guys, according to Macy. "The kids in our program are very close and even though Robbie was a star, he never acted like a star. He was humble without any ego in practice but on game days, he would just take off," Macy said. "I've never seen a player that can catch a ball somewhat flatfooted and explode to full speed in a couple of steps which was quite a sight."

Mascheroni will be attending UC Davis next year for three reasons: family, academe-

tics, and athletics. "My mom grew up in Woodland, just outside of Davis and my grandfather still lives there and my aunt and uncle live in Davis and I'm very close with all of them," Mascheroni said. "I'm excited to bring my work ethic to Davis and be able to focus on becoming a better athlete and a better student, taking that extra step away from home. I believe I can be an impact player for them as an outside receiver, using my vertical speed to get downfield."

Mascheroni will have at least one familiar face on the Davis football team in Grant Harper, a former QB at Campolindo who graduated two years earlier. "Grant and I talked after my commitment and he was excited about my coming to Davis," Mascheroni said. "When I saw Grant after a game at Davis this fall, prior to my commitment, he was trying to recruit me to come to Davis. I would say it worked and he will be a great friend to have when I start college."

Submit sports stories and story ideas to [sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

# SHOP MORAGA

**A good neighbor has your back.**

**Mark Hoogs, Agent**  
Insurance Lic#: 0M08809  
629 Moraga Road  
Moraga, CA 94556  
Bus: 925-254-3344

Life's a combination of good days and bad. I have your back for both. And who has my back? The company more people have trusted for 90 years. **CALL ME TODAY.**

**State Farm**

1606040 State Farm Bloomington, IL

Member of Moraga Chamber of Commerce

**shop Moraga first.com**

**MAKE LIFE EASY SHOP LOCAL**  
SHOPMORAGAFIRST.COM

**MORAGA ART GALLERY**

Stop in to see our new exhibition

featuring the work of gallery members *Lucy Beck and Donna Arganbright*, plus guest artist *John Hopper.*

Please join us for an Artist Reception **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4 from 5 to 7 pm.**

*Poppy Power, Photograph by Lucy Beck*

*Jewelry • Sculpture • Photography Paintings • Textiles • Ceramics • Tableware Handmade Cards and more!*

The Moraga Art Gallery is located at 432 Center Street, in the Rheem Shopping Center next door to Nations  
Hours: Wednesday - Sunday, noon to 5 pm  
• 925-376-5407 • [www.MoragaArtGallery.com](http://www.MoragaArtGallery.com)

**MARK BELLINGHAM PAINTING**

**HIRE A LOCAL NAME YOU CAN TRUST**

**925-247-0092**

**MarkBellinghamPainting.com**

Interior & Exterior Painting Deck & Fence Restoration  
Kitchen & Bathroom Cabinet Painting Dry Rot Repair  
Light Carpentry Drywall Repair

**For a Quick Preliminary Estimate Email Photos of Project to: [Office@MarkBellinghamPainting.com](mailto:Office@MarkBellinghamPainting.com)**

See our Reviews on NextDoor, Houzz & YELP

Local Business Owner - Since 1985 - Licensed & Insured

**Bay Area home companions**

in-home care services

Affordable, Competent, Warm & Compassionate Adult Care

- Personal Care
- Light Housekeeping
- Meal Preparation
- Non-medical Outpatient Assistance

**(925) 330-3999**

[www.bayareahomecompanions.com](http://www.bayareahomecompanions.com)

**Sweetheart of a DEAL!**

FOR MORE INFO [WWW.5ASPACE.COM](http://WWW.5ASPACE.COM)

WE SELL BOXES, WARDROBE BOXES, LOCKS, FURNITURE COVERS & OTHER PACKING SUPPLIES

**5ASPACE**  
455 MORAGA RD. SUITE F  
(925) 643-2026  
[www.5Aspace.com](http://www.5Aspace.com)

HOURS OF OPERATION  
MON-SAT 9AM - 6PM  
SUN 10AM-5PM

**MORAGA MOTORS**

since 1981 in Moraga. Located on Moraga Road, Rheem Valley Shopping Center

Professional Automotive Service and Repair  
Foreign and Domestic

**2016 Moraga Small Business of the Year**

530 Moraga Rd. • 925-376-0692  
[www.moragamotors.com](http://www.moragamotors.com)

**The UPS Store**

**New hours:** Mon-Fri 8:00-6:00  
Sat 9-5, Sun closed

**Our location:** 1480 Moraga Rd, Ste C  
Moraga, CA 94556-2005

- ✓ Shipping
- ✓ Copying, Finishing
- ✓ Printing Services
- ✓ Notary Services
- ✓ Postal Services
- ✓ Business Services
- ✓ Live Scan
- Fingerprinting

[www.theupsstorelocal.com/2291](http://www.theupsstorelocal.com/2291)

**MORAGA RETREAT CARE HOMES**

residential assisted living for seniors

professional staff, resident-centered care  
private rooms, home-made meals, medication management  
unparalleled attention to detail

[MORAGARETREAT.COM](http://MORAGARETREAT.COM) (925) 376-2273

**PROFESSIONAL EYECARE**  
OPTOMETRY

**Dr. Wm. Schwertscharf, O.D.**

- Comprehensive Vision Testing
- Eye Disease Diagnosis
- Specialty Contact Lens Care
- Finest Quality Eyewear and Sunglasses

**1030 Country Club Drive, Ste. A Moraga • (925) 376-2020**

**\$50 off for new clients**

**Hall of Taxes**  
*Peggy Hall, Enrolled Agent*  
Over 30 years experience  
*Stephen Hall, MBA, CTEC*  
Specializing in complex tax situations for individuals and small businesses.

Moraga  
(925) 388-1040  
[www.HallofTaxes.com](http://www.HallofTaxes.com) • [peggy@halloftaxes.com](mailto:peggy@halloftaxes.com)

**Watch for Love Lafayette February 15 Call for Advertising 925.377.0977**

**RHEEM VALLEY AUTOMOTIVE**  
(Rheem center-across from the Post Office)

**Complete Auto Repair State of California Brake, Lamp & Smog Station**

STAR Certified

377-6020  
[WWW.RHEEMAUTO.COM](http://WWW.RHEEMAUTO.COM)

**Reflexion**  
SKIN CARE & HAIR SALON  
Moraga's Premier Salon

**OPEN -Call today!**  
all safety protocols in place

925.376.7222  
508 Center Street, Moraga (in Rheem Valley Shopping Center)

**Si Si Caffé**

Best Latte in Town

910 Country Club Dr. Moraga  
925-377-1908

# Lamorinda

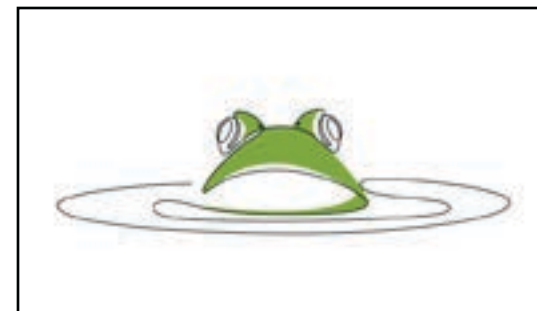
# OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly

Volume 16

Issue 25

Wednesday, February 1, 2023



Simple tips to get organized

... read on Page D4

*Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian*

## Making stock and pruning roses



Fennel, turnips, carrots, and other root vegetables are great to make stock.



A sprig of Chinese fringe flowers will toast the Chinese New Year in a bouquet.



Red mushrooms sprouting under the oxalis.

Photos Cynthia Brian

**By Cynthia Brian**

*"It's the time that you spent on your rose that makes your rose so important. ... People have forgotten this truth, but you mustn't forget it. You become responsible forever for what you've tamed. You're responsible for your rose."* – Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

After three weeks of tumultuous torrents, we have exhaled a communal sign of relief with the respite of sunshine and dry days. Standing water is thankfully penetrating the soggy soil as storm clean-ups are underway. The freezing night temperatures combined with gale-force winds have caused citrus to fall to the ground. Make sure to pick up the fruit to use as soon as possible, and refrigerate whatever is not damaged. Mushrooms are

sprouting in unlikely places. Unless you are a mycologist or are certain that the fungi are edible, do not touch them, as numerous mushrooms are deadly poisonous.

Hopping into the Year of the Rabbit, heavy pruning of my roses, and ongoing weeding are on my agenda this month as well as dormant spraying of the fruit trees. Since it is cold, damp, and dreary, I find myself in the kitchen creating comfort foods that nourish the body and warm the spirit.

During the winter, my potager prides itself on growing arugula, lettuce, nasturtium, cauliflower, Brussel sprouts, Swiss chard, beets, carrots, parsley, fennel, onions, chives, and numerous herbs and edible flowers including mint, oregano, rosemary, calendula, peppercorns, lemongrass, and bay.

... continued on Page D16

## VLATKA BATHGATE



IF I HAD A BUYER FOR YOUR HOME WOULD YOU SELL IT?

Call me at 925 597 1573

Vlatka@BestLamorindaHomes.com

CalBRE#01390784



HAPPY  
*Valentine's Day*



### COMING SOON IN ORINDA



Spectacular Views with Pool  
4 Beds 2.5 Baths  
Brand new gourmet kitchen  
Court location with huge 1.3 acre lot.  
Close to schools

**For your next home call Vlatka!**

VLATKA CAN HELP YOU WITH BUYING OR SELLING YOUR HOME.  
[WWW.BESTLAMORINDAHOMES.COM](http://WWW.BESTLAMORINDAHOMES.COM)

©2023 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office is owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. CalBRE License # 01908304

## Lamorinda home sales recorded

City	Last reported	Lowest amount	Highest amount
LAFAYETTE	6	\$875,000	\$3,720,000
MORAGA	6	\$520,000	\$2,850,000
ORINDA	6	\$580,000	\$2,300,000

Home sales are compiled by Cal REsource, an Oakland real estate information company. Sale prices are computed from the county transfer tax information shown on the deeds that record at close of escrow and are published five to eight weeks after such recording. This information is obtained from public county records and is provided to us by California REsource. Neither Cal REsource nor this publication are liable for errors or omissions.

### LAFAYETTE

- 3146 Diablo View Road, \$2,070,000, 5 Bdrms, 4659 SqFt, 2007 YrBlt, 12-16-22, Previous Sale: \$755,000, 11-09-04
- 3243 Judith Lane, \$875,000, 2 Bdrms, 1705 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 12-14-22, Previous Sale: \$322,000, 07-01-89
- 816 Las Trampas Road, \$1,700,000, 5 Bdrms, 3820 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 12-20-22
- 3438 Little Lane, \$1,675,000, 3 Bdrms, 1434 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 12-16-22
- 1994 Reliez Valley Road, \$1,350,000, 3 Bdrms, 1938 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 12-21-22
- 24 Ruth Court, \$3,720,000, 4 Bdrms, 3857 SqFt, 2006 YrBlt, 12-22-22, Previous Sale: \$2,000,500, 11-07-12

### MORAGA

- 1967 Ascot Drive #B, \$520,000, 2 Bdrms, 964 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 12-22-22, Previous Sale: \$430,000, 08-25-16
- 1977 Ascot Drive #2, \$585,000, 2 Bdrms, 1295 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 12-16-22, Previous Sale: \$151,500, 04-01-87
- 21 Birchwood Place, \$1,600,000, 4 Bdrms, 2373 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 12-15-22
- 1125 Bollinger Canyon, \$2,850,000, 5304 SqFt, 1992 YrBlt, 12-14-22
- 9 Canning Court, \$1,586,500, 4 Bdrms, 2414 SqFt, 1960 YrBlt, 12-21-22, Previous Sale: \$793,500, 12-16-22
- 16 Williams Drive, \$1,887,500, 3 Bdrms, 2283 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 12-19-22, Previous Sale: \$990,000, 05-21-09

### ORINDA

- 39 Barbara Road, \$1,000,000, 2 Bdrms, 1565 SqFt, 1932 YrBlt, 12-20-22, Previous Sale: \$905,000, 05-01-18
- 12 Bates Boulevard, \$1,710,000, 3 Bdrms, 1897 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 12-15-22, Previous Sale: \$1,425,000, 02-08-19
- 73 Brookwood Road #14, \$580,000, 2 Bdrms, 1020 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 12-16-22, Previous Sale: \$140,000, 07-01-86
- 170 Camino Don Miguel, \$2,300,000, 3 Bdrms, 3016 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 12-19-22
- 43 Overhill Road, \$2,130,000, 4 Bdrms, 3699 SqFt, 1942 YrBlt, 12-13-22
- 2 Stanton Court, \$1,300,000, 3 Bdrms, 2193 SqFt, 1960 YrBlt, 12-19-22



## DREAM BIG HOMES

MARY & PEGGY

**Innovative.  
Insightful.  
Informed.**

We've moved to  
51 Moraga Way, Orinda.  
With 30+ years of experience  
selling in the East Bay.

DreamBig Homes Team | [DreamBig.Homes](http://DreamBig.Homes)  
Mary Arnerich-King DRE 01419839 | 925.872.7975  
Peggy Whalen DRE 00686588 | 925.212.1900

**DreamBig with Us**

**COMPASS**

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. California License # 01991628, 1527235, 1527365, 1356742, 1443761, 1997075, 1935359, 1961027, 1842987, 1869607, 1866771, 1527205, 1079009, 1272467. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.

# I'D LOVE TO HELP YOU SELL *your Lamorinda house*

*Lamorinda is  
my home,  
my focus,  
my passion.*



Amy Rose Smith  
Partner - Village Associates  
925.212.3897  
amy@amyrosesmith.com  
www.amyrosesmith.com  
DRE: #01855959



FINDING THE *Right* FIT



AMYROSESMITH



30 <sup>+</sup>	45 <sup>+</sup>	13 <sup>+</sup>
YEARS LIVING IN LAMORINDA	YEARS LOVING LAMORINDA	YEARS LISTING LAMORINDA
<i>Top 1%</i>	<i>\$450+M</i>	<i>100%</i>
IN LAMORINDA	SALES	LOVING LAMORINDA

villageassociates.com | @villageassociates

925.254.0505 | **It's Village. Of Course.**



DUDUM REAL ESTATE GROUP IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE OUR

# 2022 PRESIDENTS CLUB HONOREES

## PRESIDENTS CLUB ELITE

ADAM HAMALIAN  
ANGIE CLAY  
BRANDON KERSIS  
BRYAN HURLBUT

CHERYL HATA  
JAMIE CONNORS  
JULIE DEL SANTO  
KAAREN BRICKMAN

KELLY WOOD  
LESLIE SHAFTON  
LORI LEGLER  
MARISA COX

PAMELA COLOMBANA  
RUTH EDDY  
SHERRY HUTCHENS  
VERONICA HIDALGO

## PRESIDENTS CLUB

AMY CALLAHAN  
ANGELA LOTMAN  
ANASTASIA STEPHANOPOULOS  
BONNE WERSEL  
BONNIE KUMMELL  
BRETT BARNES  
CANDI HOYLE  
CARA GAMBLE  
CAROLYN WAY  
CATHY BAIGENT  
DARA BUZZARD

DAVE CHRISTIE  
DAVE SMITH  
DENISEN HARTLOVE  
EMANUEL SAKKIS  
EMILY YOUNG  
FONIA HUMPHRIES  
JACKIE GERRY  
JANE SMITH  
JIM COLHOUN  
JOE DAJANI  
JOHN FONDNAZIO

JOHN HOYLE  
JOHN SEFTON  
KAREN GUARISCO  
KAREN IVANKOVICH  
KELLY SCHOLES  
KIM CERDA  
KIM SEFTON  
KORY MADGE  
LINDSEY SINDAYEN  
LISA TICHENOR  
MARTY HENDREN

MATT MCLEOD  
MEREDITH KUMMELL  
MICHAEL GERRY  
OLIVER BROWN  
RONNI SCHWARTZ  
SABRENA LAWTON  
SCOTT HUMPHRIES  
SHEILA CHRISTIE  
TERRYLYNN FISHER  
TINA FRECHMAN  
VALERIE EPTING



**JULIE DEL SANTO**

BROKER/OWNER  
925.818.5500  
DRE# 01882902 | 01290985

**DUDUM**  
REAL ESTATE GROUP



# DUDUM REAL ESTATE GROUP

WWW.DUDUM.COM

ADAM HAMALIAN



925.708.5630  
DRE# 01917597

CAROLYN WAY



925.890.4115  
DRE# 00947460

CHRISTINE WRIGHT



925.285.5336  
DRE# 01896147

JOY WIEHN



415.377.1884  
DRE# 02047712

JILL BALAZS



925.804.0200  
DRE# 02038791

LAUREN DEAL  
HURLBUT TEAM

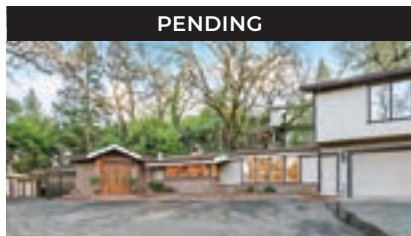


925.876.4671  
DRE#02060294



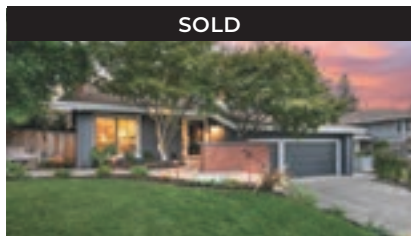
COMING SOON

4 EL VERANO, ORINDA  
OFFERED AT \$2,299,000  
RUTH EDDY | 925.788.5449



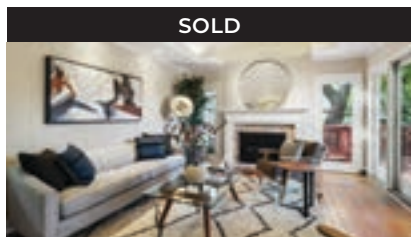
PENDING

964 YORKSHIRE COURT, LAFAYETTE  
CALL FOR INFORMATION  
LAUREN DEAL | 925.876.4671



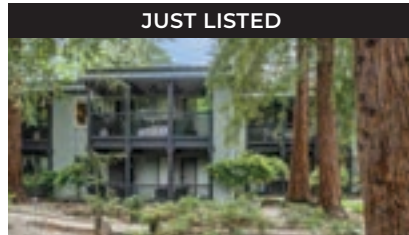
SOLD

1127 CALDER LANE, WALNUT CREEK  
SOLD FOR \$1,789,000  
S.HUTCHENS/A.HAMALIAN | 925.212.7617



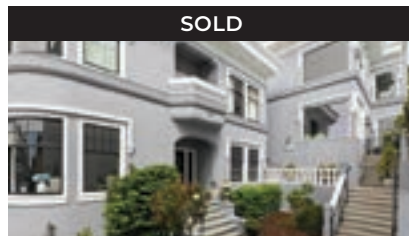
SOLD

996 HAWTHORN DRIVE, LAFAYETTE  
SOLD FOR \$1,250,000  
L. LEGLER & C. HATA | 925.286.1244



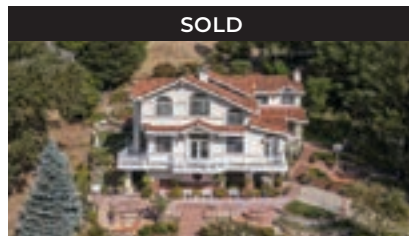
JUST LISTED

179 RUBICON CIRCLE, DANVILLE  
OFFERED AT \$749,000  
SMITH HOMES TEAM | 925.998.1914



SOLD

2782 JACKSON STREET, SAN FRANCISCO  
SOLD FOR \$2,050,000  
S.HUTCHENS/A.HAMALIAN | 925.212.7617



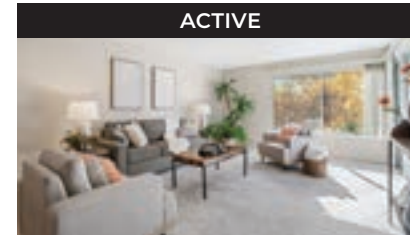
SOLD

816 LAS TRAMPAS ROAD, LAFAYETTE  
SOLD FOR \$1,700,000  
KAAREN BRICKMAN | 925.351.5049



REPRESENTED BUYER & SELLER

1321 JUANITA DRIVE, LAFAYETTE  
SOLD FOR \$1,130,000  
CAROLYN WAY | 925.890.4115



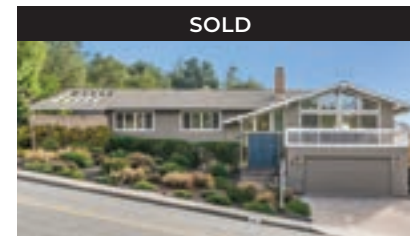
ACTIVE

1935 CACTUS COURT, #4, ROSSMOOR  
OFFERED AT \$665,000  
L. LEGLER & C. HATA | 925.286.1244



SOLD

25 OCHOS RIOS PLACE, DANVILLE  
SOLD FOR \$1,800,000  
COLOMBANA GROUP | 925.878.8047



SOLD

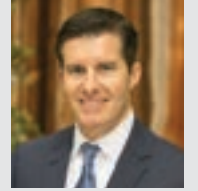
83 GREENFIELD DRIVE, MORAGA  
SOLD FOR \$1,700,000  
MATT MCLEOD | 925.464.6500



SOLD • REPRESENTED BUYER

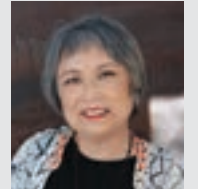
9 CANNING COURT, MORAGA  
SOLD FOR \$1,586,000  
COLOMBANA GROUP | 925.878.8047

BRYAN HURLBUT



925.383.5500  
DRE# 01347508

CHERYL HATA



510.912.5882  
DRE# 013859346

JANE & DAVE SMITH



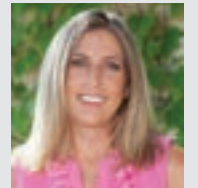
925.998.1914  
DRE# 01476506/02105225

JULIE DEL SANTO  
BROKER/OWNER



925.818.5500  
DRE# 01290985

KAAREN BRICKMAN



925.351.5049  
DRE# 01932119

LORI LEGLER



925.286.1244  
DRE# 00805732

MATT MCLEOD



925.464.6500  
DRE# 01310057

RACHEL DREYER



415.990.1672  
DRE# 01994561

COLOMBANA  
GROUP



925.878.8047  
DRE# 01979180

RUTH EDDY



925.788.5449  
DRE# 01313819

SHELLEY RUHMAN



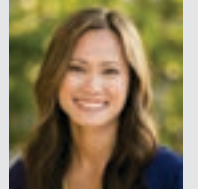
510.506.1351  
DRE#01180260

SHERRY HUTCHENS



925.212.7617  
DRE# 01320608

TINA FRECHMAN



925.915.0851  
DRE# 01970768





## If you're looking for an agent who...

- ✓ Grew up in Lamorinda and has kids in the local schools
- ✓ Has sold 100's of homes in the area and has specialized in Lamorinda for 20 years
- ✓ Has experience properly pricing and preparing homes
- ✓ Supports local non-profits with each sale

...please contact me so we can make a plan to get you where you want to be in the new year!

**Michelle Holcenberg**  
CB Top 20 East Bay

[www.holcenberg.com](http://www.holcenberg.com)



925-324-0405 | [michelle@holcenberg.com](mailto:michelle@holcenberg.com)



COLDWELL BANKER REALTY

BRE #01373412

©2023 Coldwell Banker. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker and the Coldwell Banker logos are trademarks of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. The Coldwell Banker® System is comprised of company owned offices which are owned by a subsidiary of Realty Brokerage Group LLC and Franchised offices which are independently owned and operated. The Coldwell Banker System fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. CalRE #01908304

# How time management is like eating elephants and frogs

By Jennifer Raftis, CPO

Time management is a subject you probably feel strongly about, either you loathe it or you love it. I have studied time management methods for decades and will share a few basic time management strategies that can help you make substantial, positive changes in how you manage your time. Whether I am working with a company or an individual, the methods are very much the same.

What do elephants and frogs have to do with time management?

Teachers often – in an attempt to make learning fun – use metaphors to help teach certain topics or ideas. I remember attending my first organizing conference, almost a decade ago, and the keynote speaker was talking about gardening. The speech was about growing your business as an entrepreneur. Of course it starts as a seed, water the seed and it grows, so on and so forth. At the time I thought it was rather corny but the visual stuck with me throughout all these years!

With time management, elephants are enormous or daunting projects that you are not sure how to tackle and frogs are the difficult tasks within the project. Sounds so much more interesting than “time management,” right?



## Elephants - Enormous Projects

Have you ever heard the question: How do you eat an elephant? The answer is ... one bite at a time. An elephant is the metaphor for a large, overwhelming project. The idea is that the project is much easier to manage and complete if you break it down into small steps (bites) and don't try to tackle it all at once.

One of the ways to “eat the elephant” is to set a project completion deadline and then list all of the steps that are necessary to complete the project. Next, assign deadlines for each step. One of the benefits of this method is that you are checking off each small step and seeing progress as you move forward. Each step should include an estimate for how long it will take. Note: Estimating time accurately is a learnable skill, but not an easy one. Most of the time we overestimate what we can accomplish in one day or even one hour.

... continued on Page D12





**I'm here to  
make your  
real estate  
dreams  
come true**

**2022**

**25**  
Transactions

**\$56M**  
Sales

**13<sup>th</sup>**  
Year in  
real estate

**2<sup>nd</sup>**  
Ranked Individual  
agent in Orinda

**21**  
Years living  
local

925.980.3829  
Shannon@ShannonConner.com  
ShannonConner.com

DRE# 01885058  
Villageassociates.com  
925.254.0505



SHANNON  
**CONNER**

villageassociates.com | @villageassociates | 925.254.0505 | **It's Village. Of Course.**





# 2023

All About Lamorinda

**Lafayette**

**Moraga**

**Orinda**

39 Years  
Experience

**CLARKTHOMPSON**  
REAL ESTATE BROKER



39 YEARS AS A TOP-PRODUCING REAL ESTATE BROKER SAYS IT ALL. WHETHER BUYING, SELLING OR JUST CURIOUS ABOUT THE 2023 MARKET, CLARK IS A RESOURCE FOR ALL. NOW PROUDLY COLLABORATING WITH MOLLY SMITH, SHANNON CONNER AND AMY ROSE SMITH, TOP AGENTS THAT SHARE CLARK'S UNWAVERING FOCUS ON CUSTOMER SERVICE AND MARKET KNOWLEDGE.

925-254-8585 | [ct@clarkthompson.com](mailto:ct@clarkthompson.com)



DRE# 01490853 | DRE# 00903367 | DRE# 01885058 | DRE# 01855959





## 18 Nelson Lane, Orinda

Fabulous opportunity in Orinda!

+/- 2398 SqFt, 3 bed, 2.5 bath, .76 Acre Lot

Open Sat. and Sun. 1-4pm | Call for Pricing | [www.18nelsonlane.com](http://www.18nelsonlane.com)



Listed by Amy Rose Smith

925.212.3897 | [amy@amyrosesmith.com](mailto:amy@amyrosesmith.com)

In collaboration with Shannon Conner and Molly Smith

A well-loved Orinda home built in 1963 at the end of a quiet and private lane. The sun drenched living room boasts soaring ceilings, a fireplace, walls of glass and French doors out to a brick patio. The kitchen opens to the family room and is adjacent to the dining & living room for easy everyday flow. Three bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms on the main level with, laundry, powder room and large bonus room attached to the two-car garage on the lower level. Quietly set back on a large lot amongst mature trees, this home is ready for the next owner to give it the next level of love that it needs!

Amy Rose Smith (DRE # 01855959) | Shannon Conner (DRE# 01885058) | Molly Smith (DRE # 01498053)

[villageassociates.com](http://villageassociates.com) | [@villageassociates](https://www.instagram.com/villageassociates)

Village  
ASSOCIATES



925.254.0505 | It's Village. Of Course.



“THUMP THUMP...THUMP THUMP...”

CAN YOU FEEL THE  
HEARTBEAT OF LAFAYETTE?



## NEW SINGLE LEVEL RESIDENCES IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN LAFAYETTE

Lenox Homes is now showcasing the finest luxury collection in the heartbeat of Downtown Lafayette! The one-of-a-kind single-level residences offer a relaxed luxury that is a piece of art within itself. The dramatic light-filled homes are designed to maximize space and functionality.

### Featuring: 2-3 Bed + 2 Bath + Den/Office

- A+ Schools & Location
- Single Level Floor Plans
- Light filled floor to ceiling windows
- 3-minute walk to Upscale Shops & Restaurants
- Upgraded designer-selected finishes

**Prices start from \$1.848 Million.**

**LENOXHOMES**

Specifications could subsequently change due to the unavailability of certain materials, which in that case, would be replaced with materials of equal or better value. Lenox Homes reserves the right to modify colors, alter floor plans, and change specifications or prices without prior notice or obligation. Renderings are the artist's conception and are not precise representations of the final building and residence interiors. All room dimensions and square footage has shown are approximate and will vary slightly from home to home and from the approved set of plans. The selection of options and upgrades is limited according to the stage of construction at the time of purchase.





**Now Showcasing  
Thursday - Sunday  
from 10am - 4 pm**

Lafayette's premier new boutique residences offer a simplified lock-and-go lifestyle desired by many! The tree-lined streets, charming restaurants, biking trails, and upscale shops are perfect for anyone who wants the very best of quiet, city living.

It doesn't get any better than this! The premium luxury collection floor plans are located on the second and third floors. Upon entering the spacious high ceiling, open floor plan welcomes you with large windows. The curated designer-selected finishes include slab countertops, stainless steel appliances, and designer wood cabinets with self-closing doors and easy slider drawers. The living spaces open up to private balconies, perfect for a tranquil escape. A shared courtyard lounge is also available; sip a glass of wine by the fireplace while chatting with your neighbor about where to grab post-drink appetizers.

The newest Residents of 210 Lafayette Circle feel the electric pulse of Downtown Lafayette every time they step out the front door of their Brand New large Single story Flat in Lafayette's most anticipated Luxury Penthouse collection.

Come join us this weekend to feel the heartbeat! After touring our few remaining units, walk a few steps to The Cooperage, TuTu's or the iconic Lafayette "Postino" out your back door!"



**Call for Details (877) 678-3370**

**Now showcasing Thursday - Sunday  
from 10am - 4pm**

**By appointment Monday - Wednesday  
Visit [www.livelenox.com](http://www.livelenox.com) for additional  
community details**

**Taylor Ferris DRE #01996825**



Melanie  
Snow

## MID-CENTURY ORINDA GEM

245 ORCHARD ROAD, ORINDA  
2,448 SF | 4 BR | 2 BA | .5 ACRES  
\$1,795,000



Soaring ceilings, walls of glass, spacious living areas that open to a private, flat backyard.

Upgrades include a whole house generator. Beyond the home is an adjacent 4.67-acre lot included with the sale.



melanie@melaniesnow.com | melaniesnow.com  
925.360.0344 cell | CAL BRE #00878893



VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE EXPERIENCE:  
245orchard.com

# How time management is like eating elephants and frogs

... continued from Page D6

One of the best ways to learn how to estimate time for a task is to keep track of how long tasks actually take to complete, and the next time you tackle the same type of task you will know how long it will take.

Here's an example of using this "small bites" strategy. I recently worked with a busy small business owner, his file cabinets were jammed full, and he had piles of papers all over his desk. He couldn't file anything more and he couldn't find anything. It was negatively affecting his productivity and company overall. So, we started by choosing a desired completion date and making a checklist to map out the steps involved to get there:

- First step was to go through the filing cabinets, one-by-one, to shred and recycle all of the outdated files (it's hard to file papers when you can't open the file drawers). This part of the project took several weeks to finish and we referred to the checklist for encouragement that showed our progress.
- We listed each file drawer as a separate step so he could see the progress.
- The next step was to sort all of the piles of papers on his desk and put them into folders. This aspect of the project felt daunting to the client, so we broke it down into even smaller manageable steps. One hour of sorting each morning (no more!) when he was feeling focused.

After we completed those steps, the client could easily access and manage all of the information to run his business efficiently and had an organized and clean desk to work on. The project was completed on time, and did not feel overwhelming, because we broke it down into smaller (bite size) steps.

This same approach can be used for any home project. A closet, drawer, or even a garage can be broken down into steps, scheduled on a calendar with a date for the desired completion of the project.



## Frogs - Undesirable Tasks

So, what do frogs have to do with time management? A frog represents an undesirable or difficult task – like eating a frog (not to offend anyone who loves frogs legs). ... continued on Page D14

## ~ Your Key to Lamorinda and Neighboring Communities ~

106 Lombardy Lane, 428 Dalewood Drive, 53 Ivy Drive, 16 La Plaza, 30 Broadview Terrace, 99 Sleepy Hollow Lane, 25 Lost Valley Drive, 68 Southwood Drive, 313 Overhill Road, 121 Coral Drive, 116 Catherine Court, 17 La Campana Road, 67 El Toyonal, 129 El Toyonal, 622 Moraga Way, 34 Van Tassel Lane, 105 Meadow View Road, 259 Sundown Terrace, 13 Muth Drive, 87 Tara Road, 237 La Espiral, 73 Brookwood, 11 Southwood Court, 90 Hillcrest Drive, 60 Lost Valley Drive, 5 De Soto Court, 515 Miner Road, 112 Crestview Drive, 8 Williams Court, 112 Sleepy Hollow Lane, 10 Ivy Drive, 53 Donna Maria Way, 11 Parkway Court, 14 Valley Court, 2 Crown Court, 41 Diablo View Drive, 10 Edgewood Court, 350 Miller Court, 24 Los Amigos Court, 383 MIner Road, 146 Canon Drive, 393 Camino Sobrante, 432 Miner Road, 57 Van Ripper Lane, 53 Don Gabriel Way, 15 Van Tassel Lane, 10 Valencia Road, 8 Estates Drive, 15 Donna Maria Way, 14 Francisco Court, 15 Woodland Road, 55 Loma Vista Drive, 5 North Lane, 5 Altamount Drive, 224 La Espiral, 503 Terrace, 43 Overhill Road, 2906 227 Tiburon Court, 887 Amberwood Amberwood Court, 898 Amberwood Hanson Lane, 1021 S Villa Way, 141 Encinal Court, 150 Sharene Lane #204, Via, 302 La Casa Via, 3569 Perada Court, 473 Camelback Road, 118 126 Tranquility Lane, 128 Tranquility Cleaveland Drive, 20 Pettit Lane, 110 Way, 3739 Arlington Circle, 4927 Avenue, 5050 Hilltop Drive, 674 2707 Eastgate Avenue, 1363 Tree Canyon Oak Place, 221 La Pera Circle, 114 Stonehurst Court, 9655 Camassia Road, 1625 Hill Rd, 1627 Hill Road, Lane, 2 White Diamond Lane, 3 White Lane, 5669 Pine Hollow Road, 5679 4902 Broadway #201, 1500 Campus Drive, 44 Glenwood Glade, 2758 Fairmont Drive, 1655 Claremont Drive, 600 Cragmont Avenue, 1641 Claremont Drive, 1721 Earl Avenue, 991 Glenview Drive, 15098 Swiss Lane, 101 Lombard Street #101W, 10 Miramonte Drive, 1235 Larch Avenue, 8 La Salle Drive, 127 Hardie Drive, 44 Lynnwood Place, 9 Lucia Lane, 1072 Sanders Drive, 12 Carnoustie, 47 San Pablo Court, 28 Sullivan Drive, 20 Tia Place, 752 Country Club Drive, 140 Walford Drive, 3199 Stanley Boulevard, 2 Chapel Drive, 3385 West Terrace, 2611 Caballo Ranchero Drive, 1221 Woodborough Road, 3335 St. Marys Road, 1036 Sunnybrook Drive, 4161 Coralee Lane, 752 Country Club Drive, 765 Tanglewood Drive, 640 Augustine Lane, 688 Old Jonas Hill Road, 14 Diablo Circle, 3519 S Silver Springs, 2427 Cherry Hills Drive, 566 Arrowhead Drive, 3169 Teigland Road, 3416 Moraga Boulevard, 3494 Moraga Boulevard, 3378 Springhill Rd, 2 Quail Run, 2155 Ridgewood Rd, 2556 Joseph Dr, 203 Amigo Rd, 2950 Roundhill Rd, 10 Calvin Ct



47 Linda Vista, 8 Lost Valley Drive #A, Evans Place, 24 Orchard Road, 25 Hawkridge Terrace, 525 Kite Hill Melanie Court, 67 Amberwood Lane, Court, 888 Amberwood Court, 893 Court, 899 Amberwood Court, 31 Norlyn Drive, 1072 W Holly Drive, 630 440 N Civic Drive #313, 300 La Casa Circle, 49 Amigo Lane, 1523 Wicklow Tranquility Lane, 124 Tranquility Lane, Lane, 371 Scottsdale Road, 41 Via Cabrera, 1031 Bending Willow Cochrane Avenue, 2868 Loma Vista Canyon Road, 1115 Fairmont Drive, Garden Place, 112 Quinterra Lane, 12 310 W Meadows, 1701 Liahona Lane, Way, 610 Sycamore Circle, 1623 Hill 749 Palomino Drive, 1 White Diamond Diamond Lane, 4 White Diamond Pine Hollow Road, 566 Athol Avenue,

18 Years of  
Helping the BEST  
People with All of  
Their Real Estate Needs!

DRE# 01498053

**Molly Smith**  
@mollyslist  
415.309.1085  
molly@mollyslist.com  
www.mollyslist.com



Now included with every residence: More happy hours



### Enjoy More at Merrill Gardens Senior Living

Find more hours in the day. Happy hours, not fixing-the-house hours, of course. Please call or visit our website for more information. Then prepare to seize the day.



Visit And Enjoy A Meal On Us!

(925) 272-0074

merrillgardenslafayette.com

1010 Second St, Lafayette, CA 94549



## How time management is like eating elephants and frogs

... continued from Page D12

The key to managing and completing undesirable tasks (frogs) has to do with identifying the tasks that you dread doing. These tasks require the most energy and focus so it should be done when you are feeling the most energized and focused. This best focus period in a day or week is different for everyone. It is important that you identify and know when that time is for you. Is it first thing in the morning or late at night? Early in the week or on the weekend? Using this strategy to “eat the frog” helps to develop new work habits that can be invaluable. Learning to focus your mental resources on one task is very effective, not to mention, efficient.

I find that while you are learning to implement this new focus strategy to manage undesirable tasks, it’s important to remove all distractions. That means turning off your phone, not looking at email, or even putting a “do not disturb” sign on your office door. Uninterrupted focus is the key! Your task is the priority and you are in control.

In summary, your large project is the elephant that you will break down into smaller pieces. The frogs are the undesirable or difficult tasks that you need to complete with uninterrupted focus. So get out and eat your elephants and frogs. You can do this!



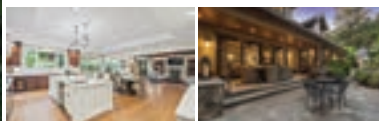
### THE PINNACLE OF LAFAYETTE

6 Tofflemire Drive, Lafayette  
5BD | 4BA | 2HfBA | 8,080 sq. ft.  
Offered for \$4,950,000  
[6TofflemireDrive.com](http://6TofflemireDrive.com)



### PERFECTION IN HAPPY VALLEY

1268 Redwood Lane, Lafayette  
5BD | 4BA | 5,145 sq. ft.  
Offered for \$4,995,000  
[1268RedwoodLn.com](http://1268RedwoodLn.com)



**Ann Newton Cane**  
**415.999.0253**

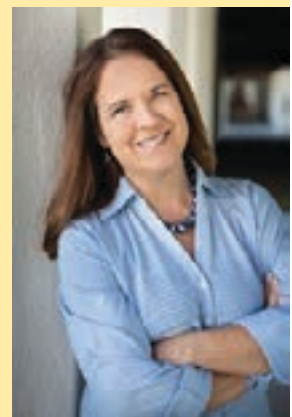
a.newtoncane@ggsir.com  
Lic.#02084093

Each Franchise Is Independently Owned And Operated.

Golden Gate

**Sotheby's**  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Professional Organizer, Jennifer Raftis, CPO® founded Efficiency Matters, LLC to help you with all of your organizing needs for your home and business. She is a Certified Professional Organizer and an active board member with NAPO, National Association of Productivity and Organizing Professionals. She is also an independent representative for The Container Store and has expertise in designing closets, garages, pantries, playrooms and more.



In addition, she is a Corporate Organizing and Productivity Consultant and has worked with Fortune 500 companies across the U.S. Another large part of her business is move management especially working with seniors who are downsizing. She and her husband have lived in Moraga for 30 years, raising 3 kids and working countless volunteer hours with many local non-profit organizations and schools. [Jennifer@efficiencymattersllc.com](mailto:Jennifer@efficiencymattersllc.com), 925-698-3756 [www.efficiencymattersllc.com](http://www.efficiencymattersllc.com)



# Simple ways to unclog bathroom sinks



Photo Jim Hurley

**By Jim Hurley**

My previous article about clogged drains, (“The-Dirty-Low-Down” in the June 8 issue), highly recommends calling a sewer specialist, but plugged or slow-draining bathroom sinks can be the exception.

First you need to consider if you want to deal with the clog. Your bathroom sink drain gets plugged with what you send down there: Used toothpaste, soap, and hair being the most common items. Pulling that slimy mass back out of the pipe can be off-putting for many and a downright gagging moment for others. It might be easier to call your handyman or plumber than to deal with that. This advice is for those lion-hearted individuals who have the courage to face the slime.

There are two common types of sink drains: One uses a lever to raise and lower the drain stopper. If your sink has this type, you may want to read my previous article “Bathroom Sink Stoppers” published Nov. 9,

2022 about how they work

(<https://lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1619/Handyman-tips-to-replace-bathroom-sink-stoppers.html>).

The other type of stopper is a push/pop type that pushes down to close, and pushes again to open, kind of like clicking a ball point pen. The top of the push/pop model unscrews from the spindle that holds it. If the drain is clogged, you can unscrew the top and try running a cleaning tool down the pipe to see if the clog will clear. The hardware store sells a very effective tool which is a length of stiff plastic with barbs cut into the edges, (one brand is called a “Zip-It”). The plastic strip goes down into the pipe and the barbs catch and drag out the nasty accumulation of hair, soap, and toothpaste that is clogging the line. If you are lucky, this will clear the pipe and water will flow once again. Screw the stopper cap back on and you’re ready to go.

If the Zip-It tool did not clear your drain, you can take the next step and disconnect the P-Trap to look for a bigger clog there or at the wall. The best approach is to empty the cabinet under the sink allowing access to the plumbing and preventing any stray water from damaging what you store down there. If the cabinet doors are easy to remove, you might consider taking one or both off to give you more room to move around. Grab a small bucket or pot to catch drain water if you end up removing the P-Trap, but you may not need to. It also helps to have adjustable, channel-lock pliers handy. Lastly, get yourself a work light or flashlight; no sense groping around in the dark.

Removing the P-Trap can be tricky. I’ve had older P-Traps literally crack or disintegrate in my hands. To remove the P-Trap, firmly grasp the pipe with one hand and try to loosen the nut with your other hand. If it is not “hand tight,” you can quietly curse the plumber who installed it under your breath and use your channel lock pliers to try and get it loose. If you still can’t get the nut to turn, it might be time to change your position to get more leverage. But remember that if you use too much force and the unit is old

and weak, you may crack the pipe and end up replacing it. If firm persuasion is still not enough to loosen the nut, it may be easiest to just cut that old nut off with a hacksaw blade and buy a new trap.

Once you’ve gotten the trap off and cleared the clog, you need to put it all back together. The one tip I can give you for re-assembling the P-Trap is to be sure everything is lined up straight before you tighten the nuts for a good seal. Once you have the drain back together, test the line by putting a dry piece of paper on the floor under the pipe, then fill the line with water and watch for drips. Then fill the sink with water and pull the plug to really flood the drainpipe. Again, be sure you have sufficient light to see if there is a drip. If you don’t have company coming soon, leave the cabinet empty for a few hours and check again for drips, just in case.

One last word on clogged drains. Some people use liquid drain cleaners. I don’t recommend them. They seldom work as well as opening the line and pulling the slimy blockage out and they will, (despite the “won’t harm pipes” claim on the bottle), corrode your lines and make them thin and brittle over time. This advice comes from the many service calls I’ve had to unclog a sink drain where there is a bottle of drain-cleaner ironically sitting on the counter next to a sink bowl full of water.

After your effort, hopefully the sink is draining, and nothing is dripping. Wash your hands and do something you enjoy. You’ve earned it.

Jim Hurley is an independent handyman with over 25 years of experience in residential repairs. Hopefully this free advice is helpful to someone attempting Do-It-Yourself home repairs. The information presented is intended for informational purposes and for use by persons having appropriate technical skill, at their own discretion and risk.



*Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian*

## Making stock and pruning roses



A platter of bits and pieces of vegetables and herbs to make stock.



Pink roses

Photos Cynthia Brian

... continued from Page D1

I am an apostle for “no waste” meal preparations. Except for any woody stems that go to the compost pile, all parts of produce are used in culinary creations. With peelings, tops and scraps, I make a rich, nutritious, and tasty vegetable stock. There is no set recipe as the bits and pieces are always changing, apart from the allium family (garlic and onions), which are critical to every batch. The finished stock becomes a base for soups, sauces, stews, and spaghetti.

Before you begin to experiment with making your homemade stock, be aware that leaves of potatoes, tomatoes and rhubarb are poisonous, especially if ingested in large quantities. Do not use them in your preparations. Toss them in the compost pile.

### **Making Stock:**

Sauté onions, garlic, leeks, or shallots in olive oil. Chop up any fresh or wilted vegetables you have, including leafy tops and green stems. The ends of carrots, turnips, parsnips, pieces of peppers, peppercorns, and any vegetable you have on hand will do. Place the vegetables in a large pot filled with boiling water. Add whatever herbs you wish along with the sautéed onion and garlic mixture. If you want a meat broth, add meat or bones. Simmer until the mixture reduces – the longer, the better. Add wine for extra flavor. Season to taste if desired and strain when completed. Use your stock immediately or freeze the extra. Stock can be made in a slow cooker

if you don’t have time to watch the stove, or it can be made in a pot in the oven with a temperature set at 250 F. Once you start making homemade stock, you won’t want to buy boxed or canned stock again. Making stock is a fantastic way to use up veggies in your refrigerator that may be past their prime, but still good. Mushrooms, celery, fennel, and ginger always offer an extra zing. It’s fun to experiment with your creativity. Stock up!

### **Pruning Roses:**

Although my numerous rose bushes continued to be prolific bloomers throughout the holiday season, the nine atmospheric rivers and the frigid nights contributed to the demise of new buds. As a Northern California gardener, I have always performed a heavy pruning of my roses in late January or early February. I always detest having to prune flowering plants, procrastinating as long as possible. Because of the storms, this February is the opportune month to heavily prune your roses before the new growth begins, allowing you to shape the bushes while the plant is dormant and prevent the spreading of any disease.

Before you begin pruning, cut any buds or blooms for a final flush of flowers for an indoor bouquet. If you are growing Chinese Fringe flowers, add sprigs of it to your arrangement for a pop of cotton candy pink or a few stems of early blooming daffodils for a sunny smile. When pruning, wear gloves and always use sharp, clean tools to make clean cuts: secateurs, loppers, and saws. Sterilize often between bushes.

... continued on Page D18



**This large shrub rose could be pruned with a hedge pruner.**



**Peter Pan daffodils are fragrant and sunny cut flowers.**

Photos Cynthia Brian

*Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian*

## Making stock and pruning roses



A perfect brandy rose blooms in spring after heavy winter pruning.

Photo Cynthia Brian

... continued from Page D16

Pruning with a hedge trimmer can be very effective to shape the larger shrub roses or big groups of one variety, but not recommended unless you have a very large number of plants. Begin by removing any dead, diseased, damaged wood, or leaves. Remove canes that are crossing or rubbing against each other, as well as weak stems or canes that are growing from the base of the bush. These canes won't produce many blooms and may crowd out healthier growth. To stimulate new growth, open the center of the bush.

Next, thin out the remaining canes, selecting the strongest and most vigorous canes. Keep only five to seven per plant and cut them back to approximately 24 inches. Ideally, make the pruning cut above an outward-facing bud and at a slight angle to encourage the new growth to emerge in the desired direction. This is not crucial and won't harm the rose if ignored, but it is best practice.

After pruning, remove any remaining attached leaves, and clean up the cut stems and debris around the base of the bush to prevent diseases and pests. Mulching and fertilizing will occur in spring.

It has been my experience that by pruning by early February, my rose garden begins its delightful display of gorgeous new blooms by late March. It only takes a bit of care and attention to love and tame our roses. As Antoine de Saint-Exupéry so exquisitely explains, we are responsible for what we've tamed.

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing. Happy February. Celebrate the Year of the Rabbit!



Hop along with joy in the year of the bunny.

# McDonnell Nursery

**Outdoor  
Pottery sale  
25% off,**

family owned since 1933

Flowers • Trees • Succulents • Pottery & Fountains  
Benches • Garden Decor • House Plants • Gifts  
Garden Consultation

[www.mcdonnellnursery.com](http://www.mcdonnellnursery.com)

196 Moraga Way • (925) 254-3713 • Open Wednesday - Sunday



Cynthia Brian celebrates the Year of the Rabbit.

Raised in the vineyards of Napa County, Cynthia Brian is a New York Times best-selling author, actor, radio personality, speaker, media and writing coach as well as the Founder and Executive Director of Be the Star You Are!® 501 c3. Tune into Cynthia's StarStyle® Radio Broadcast at [www.StarStyleRadio.com](http://www.StarStyleRadio.com). Her newest children's picture book, No Barnyard Bullies, from the series, Stella Bella's Barnyard Adventures is available now at [www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store](http://www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store) For an invitation to hang out with Cynthia for fun virtual events, activities, conversations, and exclusive experiences, buy StarStyle® NFTs at <https://StarStyleCommunity.com> Hire Cynthia for writing projects, garden consults, and inspirational lectures. [Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com](mailto:Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com) <https://www.GoddessGardener.com>

**Our advertisers make our paper possible to print and deliver free to your home. Please thank them and let them know you saw their ad.**

**Your publishers,  
Andy and Wendy Scheck**

**LAMORINDA**  
**WEEKLY**  
Local newspaper delivered to Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda

# LAMORINDA'S LEADING INDEPENDENT REAL ESTATE FIRM

## ORINDA



New Price!

**160/162 Camino Don Miguel**  
6 bd/6.5 ba Spanish Revival estate w/ views of OCC golf course and hills beyond. Exceptional location!

**\$6,895,000**

## ORINDA



Sold!

**499 Miner Road**  
Set in Sleepy Hollow, this updated 3 bd/ 2.5 ba home w/ walls of windows, soaring ceilings & fabulous floor plan!

**\$1,899,000**

## ORINDA



Sold!

**120 Ravenhill Road**  
Completely renovated 3 bd/ 3 ba Orindawoods home offers an ideal setting w/ natural light, privacy & views!

**\$1,749,000**

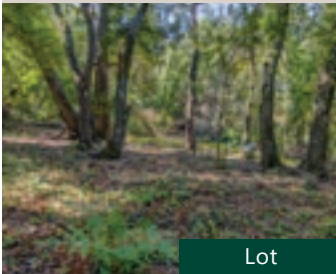
## ORINDA



**2 Orchard Court**  
Home sweet home! 3 bd/ 2 ba home needs lots of TLC now & is awaiting the next generation!

**\$999,000**

## ORINDA

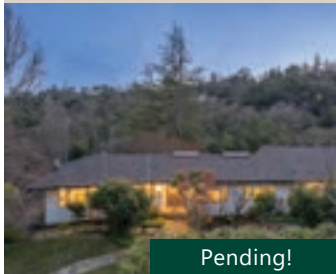


Lot

**0 Camino Del Monte**  
Come see this desirable lot located minutes from Hwy 24/BART, top rated schools, downtown, regional parks & views!

**\$225,000**

## LAFAYETTE



Pending!

**3259 La Canada**  
Updated 4 bd/ 2.5 ba home on a serene .89 acre lot in Lafayette's desirable Trail Neighborhood!

**\$2,895,000**

## LAFAYETTE



Sold!

**16 Diablo Circle**  
Nestled on a quiet street in Hidden Valley 3 bd/2 ba rancher close to the amenities of downtown Lafayette & Orinda!

**\$2,150,000**

## MORAGA

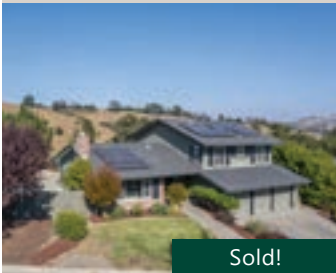


Pending!

**815 Augusta Drive**  
Stunning 3 br/3.5 ba in awesome Moraga Country Club. Soaring ceilings, 2 fireplaces. Golf, tennis, swim!

**\$1,395,000**

## MORAGA

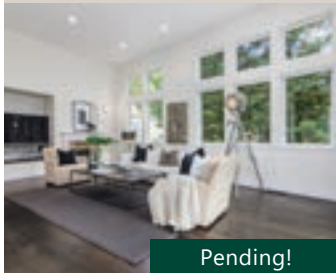


Sold!

**92 Warfield Drive**  
Classic two story 5 bd/ 3 ba home sits on a private .39 acre parcel w/ 2527 sq.ft of a fully functional floor plan!

**\$1,945,000**

## BERKELEY

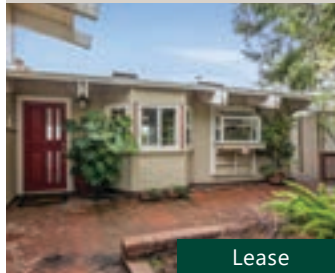


Pending!

**7164 Buckingham Blvd**  
Sophisticated contemporary 3 bd/ 3 ba set in the Claremont Hills featuring lovely canyon views!

**\$1,775,000**

## OAKLAND



Lease

**6061 Westover Drive**  
Stellar Bay views from this spacious 4 bd/ 3 ba home in the lovely Piedmont Pines neighborhood!

**\$6,500/mo.**

## ALAMEDA



Pending!

**2114 Buena Vista**  
Permitted duplex on 4,500 sq. ft. lot in Central Alameda! Unit A - 2bd/ 1 ba, w/ formal dining room. Unit B - 1 bd/ 1 ba, w/ lg living space!

**\$805,500**

## The Village Associates:

Ashley Battersby  
Patricia Battersby  
Shannon Conner  
Meara Dunsmore

Linda Ehrich  
Emily Estrada

Joan Evans

Linda Friedman

Liz Gallagher

Claudia Gohler

Ari Hatton

Gillian Judge Hogan

Dexter Honens II

Christina Linezo

April Matthews

Hillary Murphy

Karen Murphy

John Nash

Altie Schmitt

Judy Schoenrock

Ann Sharf

Amy Rose Smith

Molly Smith

Jeff Snell

Lynda Snell

Alexis Thompson

Clark Thompson

Angie Evans Traxinger

Ignacio Vega

Ann Ward

Margaret Zucker

facebook.com/VillageAssociates  
twitter.com/villageassoc  
instagram.com/VillageAssociates

93 Moraga Way, Suite 103 • Orinda, CA 94563 • Phone: (925) 254-0505

Visit [www.villageassociates.com](http://www.villageassociates.com)

Sunday Open Homes

Village

ASSOCIATES

It's Village. Of Course.

DRE#01301392